

TO OUR READERS

On January 1, 1998, I left Harvard, the François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights, and the editorship of this journal, and assumed a new position as Dean of the new Allegheny University School of Public Health in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA.

I have been blessed and honored by the collaborations which have made *Health and Human Rights* a reality. First, Albina du Boisrouvray enthusiastically supported the idea of the journal, then generously made it immediately possible. Then, a group of dedicated, supportive, and generous experts agreed to constitute the journal's Senior Advisory Board and Editorial Board; they have invested precious time and energy on its behalf.

A journal brings together the work of many people. From earliest days, talented professionals like Tori Alexander, John Lauerman, and now, Jacoba von Gimborn have brought editorial skills and have ensured the journal's production, marketing, and distribution. The enormous work of dialogue with authors around the world was wonderfully and skillfully accomplished within the Center, by Sofia Gruskin, Daniel Tarantola, and Mary Pat Kieffer.

For me, the launch and success of this journal, now with over one thousand subscribers, has been enormously satisfying, as well as challenging. Like so much about the François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights, and the Harvard School of Public Health in which it was created, I will miss the close proximity of collegiality and friendship.

As Editor Emeritus, I will continue to be engaged with the journal; in my new position, I hope to expand and extend knowledge and awareness of the connection between health and human rights. In part thanks to the forum which a journal offers, these ideas have become, in just a few years, the basis of a profound renewal in thought and action about how best to promote and protect well-being, health, human rights, and dignity.

Jonathan M. Mann
Editor Emeritus

With Jonathan Mann's departure, the journal enters a new phase of its evolution. The journal was Jonathan's idea. When, in 1994, the François-Xavier Bagnoud Center produced the first issue of the journal in a field—health and human rights—that had not been fully explored and for which a readership had to be built and sustained funding had to be secured, the challenge seemed overwhelming. Over the years, the journal has been able to generate and sustain high quality standards, to secure contributions from an ever-increasing pool of writers, and to expand its readership in both the industrialized and the developing world. Of course, as expected for a journal which is not designed to attract commercial advertising, it continues to struggle for its economic survival. The journal was and continues to be an innovative initiative, a forward-looking enterprise, and a daring project.

In his new capacity as Editor Emeritus of the journal, Jonathan's insight will continue to be precious to us. His creativity and passion have made this journal what it is today: the forum for dialogue on health and human rights. Those who have had the privilege of working closely with Jonathan, are deeply indebted to him for his warmth, vision and encouragement.

As the journal matures and new ideas arise, the journal staff will continue to draw on the Senior Advisory Board and on the Editorial Board for guidance and support. As Editor, I will deploy every effort to ensure that the journal's quest for new perspectives and understanding of the convergence of health and human rights be pursued with dynamism and creativity, and that quality standards are maintained and the readership further expanded.

And I look forward to hearing from you—our readers—as you are our greatest source of motivation and inspiration.

Sofia Gruskin
Editor