

EDITORIAL

I am very happy to introduce this special issue of *SERJ* focusing on Informal Inferential Reasoning (sometimes referred to by the acronym IIR). This is my first editorial as co-editor of the *Journal* and when I sat down to write this editorial I found that most of my work had already been done for me by our two very capable guest editors, Dave Pratt and Janet Ainley. Their introduction explains the meaning of the term, gives the genesis of the special issue, and summarises the content of the papers: I don't feel that I need write any more about these aspects.

It has been a pleasure working with Dave and Janet, and I wish to thank them for the huge amount of work they have carried out in putting this issue of *SERJ* together. I would also like to acknowledge the work of a large group of people who have supported this process. First, of course, thanks to all the authors of the papers for sharing the results of their research and experience. Thanks also to the referees, who have reviewed the papers and given their suggestions for improvements, and to Carol Blumberg, Roxy Peck, and Chris Reading, who provided extra copy-editing assistance. And finally, a huge debt of gratitude to my previous co-editor, Iddo Gal, who first set this special issue in motion, and who passed it over to me at the beginning of this year in such a form that the work since then has been remarkably trouble free.

Having worked as co-editor for almost a year, I realise that I have joined a very capable team, including my co-editor Tom Short who has handled the various paper submissions and their refereeing, Assistant Editor Beth Chance who has put together both of the issues this year and overseen their proofing, and our team of Associate Editors, too numerous to mention by name. However, particular thanks to Dick Sheaffer, who is stepping down, and a welcome to Randall Groth, who is joining the editorial board as Associate Editor.

Now it's time to start thinking about the next special issue of our journal! We have had a few suggestions for the next theme, but would welcome any others while we are at this initial stage. But in the meantime, please enjoy the results of all our labours on this issue!

PETER PETOCZ