

Plowing Ahead

Simulation & Gaming

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Marlies P. Schijven and Toshiko Kikkawa

Dear readers, authors, reviewers and associate editors of Simulation and Gaming,

Belated greetings from your new editors. After Timothy C. Clapper stepped down as editor as from the 31st of December, 2020, we, Marlies P. Schijven and Toshiko Kikkawa were appointed as joint editors. We are grateful to Timothy for his former and ongoing dedication and support towards the Journal, together with the former co-editors of J. Tuomas Harviainen and Willy C. Kriz. We are delighted to follow in this team's efforts of building and strengthening the Journal; towards generating more scientific evidence considering the use of Simulation and Gaming in society.

In the process of transitioning editors, we must admit that there has been considerable delay in the reviewing processes and the production system. The situation has now become normal. For this, we would like to thank our existing and new associate editors and reviewers. Together, we were able to put in considerable effort towards normalizing the transition time of the reviewing process, even in the often-overloaded COVID-19 situation. We also cordially thank for the Sage team who helped us, the novice editors. Without their help, we were not able to even manage the rather complex reviewing system appropriately.

And above all, we would like to thank the contributors to the Journal for their understanding of the delay and patience in the processes.

Now, it is our time and turn to give back to the S&G journal and community. The SAGE journal has a proud heritage of the field—spanning a period of over five decades; though it does not mean that we will stay only in the position of the successors of the heritage. The field of S&G, as digital technology evolves, is rapidly expanding—and forever changing. Two growing trends we would like to address here: The digital game studies have been grown at an accelerated pace both in numbers and output; and the application of Simulation and Gaming in the medical education field has surged exponentially.

Besides, we foresee a trend moving forward to a more diverse and inclusive world for S&G. As you already noticed, we are the first female editors of S&G. In addition, Marlies is from the Western Area and Toshiko is from the non-Western Area. Newly appointed Associate Editors are deliberately chosen, carefully balancing this perspective. Aside from the gender and cultural diversity, which is surface-level of diversity, we would also esteem the deep-level diversity, which includes differences in values, expertise, beliefs and so on. In this sense, we are striving to expand the fields of S&G.

We do welcome innovative snapshot articles, future perspectives and viewpoints; as well as articles following or describing more traditional research paths and topics. Feel free to submit and describe your innovative ideas, including but not limited to vlogs, social media use, gaming consoles, tournament settings and –jams, and working groups. Let's spice up the journal and its relevance!

Although the world is still suffering from the impacts of COVID-19, we believe in the Roman proverb "Post nubila Phoebus" and keep plowing ahead with our mission.

We, the editors, recognize that improving the quality of the journal is our first priority, for which we have an open mind and will devote our energy. We hope, you all will join us in our efforts.

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