

Intro duction

Thank You

This is the first issue of the *Quality Management Journal (QMJ)* for which I have had the honor of serving as the editor. I want to thank all of the members of the Editorial Advisory and Editorial Review Boards who have generously contributed their time to making this journal a success. Without the generous donation of so much time by members of these boards, there could be no journal. I also want to start my tenure as editor of *QMJ* by thanking Dr. James R. Evans for his great help in preparing this issue and in making the transition between editors successful. Those of you who have done this work can appreciate the amount of work involved. I also want to thank the *QMJ* administrative staff, particularly the publisher, William Tony, and the manuscript coordinator, Valerie Ellifson, for patient guidance during the process.

Book Review Section

This issue of *QMJ* also has a new book review editor, Dr. Nicole Radziwill, and a new associate book review editor, Dr. Matthias Thürer. Both are very qualified for their positions. Dr. Radziwill is an active member of the American Society for Quality (ASQ) quality community. She is an ASQ Fellow and past chair of the ASQ Software Division. She is also a certified Six Sigma Black Belt and a national examiner for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award. She was recognized in *Quality Progress* in 2011 as one of the 40 New Voices of Quality and currently blogs as part of ASQ's Influential Voices (<http://qualityandinnovation.com>). She is also an assistant professor in the Department of Integrated Science & Technology at James Madison University where she enjoys teaching statistics. Dr. Thürer is an international scholar, having worked in Portugal and Brazil as well as Germany. Through his work on the use of workload control to introduce lean operations into job shops (<http://www.workloadcontrol.com/home>) he developed a deep appreciation of the importance of quality because of its importance to lean operations. These editors are constantly looking for books that could be of particular interest to *QMJ*'s readers. If you have ideas about books to review or if you want to write a review of a particular book, please contact Dr. Nicole Radziwill at nicole.radziwill@gmail.com.

Striving to Fulfill the Quality Management Journal's Mission

The *QMJ* actively contributes to the development of the quality profession throughout the world by striving to be the first choice of those who want to learn more about quality management and for those engaged in research efforts to further develop managers' theoretical understanding of quality management. Since *QMJ*'s first editor, William A. Golomski, *QMJ* has sought to be recognized as the home of thought leaders in the field of quality

management. *QMJ* has long sought to “link the efforts of academic researchers and quality management practitioners ... [and] provide a forum for communicating and discussing research findings.” (*QMJ* Aims and Scopes). To accomplish this, *QMJ* must strive to publish original research that will continue to increase the understanding of quality management systems in both service and manufacturing companies.

New QMJ Section

To ensure that our research addresses the most pressing problems in both the service and manufacturing industries, and to increase dialogue between practitioners and researchers, *QMJ* will begin to publish “Perspective” articles. The first of these articles is in this issue. The *QMJ* Perspective section is modeled on the Perspective section published in *Science*. These are not research articles; rather, they are the perspective of individuals who have a unique expertise or voice that needs to be shared with the practitioner and quality community. It is hoped that these articles will identify research problems that need to be explored and fruitful areas for collaboration between practitioners and researchers. The perspective article should provide insight into current quality management research or provide an overview of the quality management field and insights about the research gaps and needs in the field. A perspective paper is not a research paper, although it is peer reviewed. It is a thought piece that to be valuable needs to be grounded in both experience and the research literature. The first Perspective article in this series provides a nurse’s view of quality management in a hospital. Sue Sietz, the author, provides insight from her more than 35 years of experience in various nursing positions as well as her work with various professional associations.

Focused Issues of QMJ

If you are interested in editing a special issue about an aspect of quality management or about quality management in a particular field, please submit your idea to me at flawren@clemsun.edu. Some suggestions for future focused issues include: 1) the role of nurses in quality of healthcare delivery services; 2) the role of the middle manager in continuous improvement efforts; 3) how incentive reward systems affect quality management; 4) the effectiveness of ISO 9001 in providing a structure for continuous improvement; and 5) the use of Hoshin planning/deployment systems or target cascading to implement continuous improvement programs.

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