

Letter from the Editor of *Workers Compensation Policy Review*

Dear Subscriber:

I write to inform you this is the last issue of the *Workers' Compensation Policy Review*. I decided to end the publication because I want to devote my time to several other important projects and because I do not wish to continue providing the financial subsidy the publication has required in recent years.

This decision was difficult because for 20 years I have served as Editor of publications designed to convey information across disciplines and from academics to policy makers in workers' compensation and related programs. There were 64 bimonthly issues of the *Workers' Compensation Monitor* from 1988 to 1997, when I terminated the partnership publishing the journal. This is the 48th issue of the *Workers' Compensation Policy Review*, which was published bimonthly from 2001 to 2008 and for which I have served as Editor, Publisher, and regular contributor.

I will remain active in workers' compensation and related fields. In the last few years, I have been involved in two studies of the disability benefits program for veterans and I hope to continue examining this topic. I am a member of an American Bar Association Task Force on the American Medical Association *Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment*. I am Chair of the National Academy of Social Insurance Study Panel on National Data on Workers' Compensation. Xuguang (Steve) Guo and I are continuing our research on workers' compensation and the relationship of the program with Social Security Disability Insurance. And I am clearing my schedule so I can prepare a study of Cash Benefits in Disability Programs, which will serve as the capstone on my long interest in promoting adequate and equitable benefits for disabled persons.

I want to thank you for subscribing to the *Workers' Compensation Policy Review*. I also want to thank the members of the Advisory Board, who are listed on the final page of this issue. I especially want to thank Peter Barth, Keith Bateman, Monroe Berkowitz, Don Elisburg, Jim Ellenberger, Tom Gleason, Nordin Hadler, Allan Hunt, Bill Johnson, John Lewis, Rick Victor, and Ed Welch, who have been members of the Advisory Boards for all 112 issues of the *Monitor* and the *Policy Review*. I also want to thank Tim Schmidle and Elizabeth Yates, who served as Associate Editors for the publications.

I particularly want to thank Florence Blum, who has worked with me since 1994. Her official titles are Executive Assistant for Workers' Disability Income Systems, the publisher of the *Workers' Compensation Policy Review*, and Production Coordinator for the *Policy Review*. But her responsibilities far exceed these titles, as she also has conducted much of the research and co-authored many of the articles in the *Policy Review*. When she started, we provided files with the individual articles to the printer, who then prepared the layout, printed and distributed the issues, and handled all the finances for the subscriptions. In recent years, Florence has taken over all of those roles. As you can imagine, we have a very busy office where these activities take place. It is a tribute to her demeanor and character that we have never had a disagreement during all these years.

Finally, I want to thank Janet for her support. When the first issue of the *Workers' Compensation Monitor* was published, she gave me a plaque commemorating the new venture. Now I owe her a monument for her 20 years of support of my publishing venture.

Warm regards to all aficionados of workers' compensation.

John Burton