2017 has been a busy year for the HLRC Journal. As you probably have noticed, we upgraded to the newest version of the hosting software, which gives the journal a cleaner look and feel (and we hope it has not created a "learning curve" for you!). We also successfully began putting articles online as they were accepted, copyedited, and published, thus ensuring your work appears as soon as possible. We can do this while continuing to compile articles into two online issues per year. We also continue to expand our indexation where possible. We are indexed now in Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC), Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) and, more recently, JGate. We are glad that article access continues to expand.

This year, we initiated two campaigns to increase interest in the journal. In the first, we sent flyers to dozens of institutions soliciting interest in becoming peer reviewers. In the second, we sent information to the same schools soliciting interest in submitting to the journal. We received a fair amount of interest in peer reviewing, and in the latter months of the year, the number of submissions increased as well. We continue to look only for the best quality manuscripts; this year, our acceptance rate was 43%.

In the current issue, we solicited two invited manuscripts that reflect the range of topics of interest to the journal. Benito and colleagues discuss the importance of faculty development as a key priority in institutions of higher education. Santiago and colleagues examine the domain of workplace competencies; in their paper, the authors compare competencies across several assessment tools and discuss some of the consequences of differences in competency definitions.

We at the HLRC journal wish all of you a very wonderful holiday, and we look forward to serving you in 2018!

Sincerely,

Gary J Burkholder, PhD
Editor In Chief