

ent from the tax credit plans we see now being pushed," said Martin. "We're hoping to generate more discussion of these issues at the national level"—discussion that could later set the stage for introduction of legislation based on the Academy's plan.

Timing counts. The candidates for US president are addressing health issues in their campaigns, and Academy leaders and other family physicians are already asking presidential hopefuls to articulate their views on access to care for everyone.

"A lot depends on whether the American public has the will to push health care to the front of the line," said Martin.

Cindy Borgmeyer
AAFP News Department



From the American Board
of Family Practice

NEW EDITORS OF THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF FAMILY PRACTICE

The American Board of Family Practice announces the retirement of long-time *Journal of the American Board of Family Practice (JABFP)* editor, John Geyman, MD. We are grateful for Dr. Geyman's stewardship in building the *Journal* and for leading it into its new electronic format. We also proudly announce the appointment of new editors. Editor-in-chief is Marjorie Bowman, MD, MPA, Professor and Founding Chair, Department of Family Practice and Community Medicine, University of Pennsylvania. The new deputy editor is Victoria Neale, PhD, MPH, Associate Professor, Department of Family Medicine, Wayne State University.

The *JABFP* is now available in a fully electronic format with free access to all content. The new *JABFP* Web site at <http://www.jabfp.org> offers wonderful advantages over the print format, which is now available only to paid subscribers.

The electronic format of *JABFP* offers numerous benefits, including PDF reprints of articles published from 2001 to the present. Readers are especially encouraged to submit comments about new articles as Rapid Responses through the www.jabfp.org Web site. Rapid Responses will be linked to articles and posted on the Web site within days of submission. The Rapid Responses feature allows for postpublication peer review and comment by readers. This open-review process should benefit our larger community of practitioners and researchers.

Coming Soon! The *JABFP* will soon provide electronic manuscript submission. Electronic submission will reduce duplicating and mailing costs for authors

and should increase the efficiency of the peer-review process. In the meantime, manuscripts should be mailed to Ms. Virginia Gessner, Senior Editorial Assistant, Dept. of Family Medicine, Box 354696, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195-4696.

Recruiting Peer Reviewers

The *JABFP* is also seeking new peer reviewers. If you are willing to serve as a peer reviewer, please send an e-mail message that specifies your areas of expertise and interest to Ms. Virginia Gessner at virginia_gessner@fammed.washington.edu.

Peer reviewing provides the opportunity for researchers to sharpen their critical appraisal skills. Peer reviewers are expected to treat all manuscripts as confidential documents. If a reviewer receives a manuscript that poses a real or perceived conflict of interest, this should be declared to the editorial office.

DECEMBER 5, 2003, ADMINISTRATION OF THE CERTIFICATION AND RECERTIFICATION EXAMINATIONS

The ABFP will offer a second administration of the Certification and Recertification Examinations on December 5, 2003. These examinations will be administered via computer only and will be offered to a select number of physicians who fall into the following categories:

- Off-cycle residents who complete their training after June 30, 2003, but on or before November 15, 2003
- Candidates who were unsuccessful on the July 11, 2003, examinations
- Candidates who applied for the July 2003 examinations and were unable to complete all of the requirements before the deadlines
- Candidates who were forced to defer participation in July 2003 because of illness or other extraordinary personal circumstances

To determine whether you are eligible, call the ABFP Help Desk at 877-223-7437 or email abfphd@abfp.org.

Questions from American Board of Family Practice (ABFP) Diplomates Regarding the Maintenance of Certification Program for Family Physicians (MC-FP)

By the time this issue of the *Annals of Family Medicine* has been published, the ABFP will have distributed to its Diplomates an overview of the MC-FP and its four components (Professionalism, Self-Assessment and Lifelong Learning, Cognitive Expertise and Performance in Practice) and a Frequently Asked Questions supplement. These were distributed through direct-mail handouts at the July 11, 2003, examinations, and via the Web site at www.abfp.org.