Editor's Note

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The Asia-Pacific Media Educator is a new venture aimed at providing a forum for media educators across an increasingly important spectrum of comparative study.

Broadly defined, this area covers communications, journalism, media studies, cultural studies, applied media, and media arts, together with resonances in innumerable other disciplines. With rapid changes in media education and technology it may even extend to other areas that cannot be foreseen at the moment.

In short, we are taking a "big tent" approach, welcoming scholars, educators, theorists, journalists, communicators and practitioners to contribute to this journal.

Our principal focus is the Asia/Pacific region broadly defined. We will not, however, exclude contributions that are relevant and apposite from any part of the globe. Our only reservation is that articles, reports, reviews, comments, records of direct experience and other material have some relevance to media education, either directly or as shaped and modified through practical experience. We hope to draw on the best work in the wide range of disciplines applicable to media education and practice.

Because the APME has been conceived and initiated in journalism departments it is, perhaps, inevitable that at least in the formative period, some of our readers may feel that our approach is too narrow. The obvious way of correcting any imbalance, of course, is to encourage contributions from as wide a range of media-related disciplines as possible.

Our editorial board will work rigorously to provide a balanced approach to a wide range of conceptions, and perceptions, of media education. We are particularly interested in encouraging contributions about changes in the inter-relationships between media disciplines with the accumulating stresses of media convergence and technological change.

The core of this journal will be dedicated to refereed and rigorously evaluated research articles devoted to core issues of media education. In the longer term, we hope it will be possibly an ancillary program of medium-length monographs directed to media research. Given this emphasis on new research in media education, we hope also to stimulate a much wider range of
contribution than pedagogical journals with a narrow, sometimes pompous, conception of what is appropriate for an academic publication. Be assured that we will find space for the innovative, irreverent and unorthodox contribution. Hopefully, we won't be caught in the trap of taking ourselves too seriously.

The APME has been very much the brainchild of Eric Loo of the Graduate School of Journalism, University of Wollongong, and Barry Lowe of the Department of English, City University of Hong Kong. Mr Loo has been primarily responsible for obtaining the excellent range of contributions, and for designing, co-editing and preparing the inaugural issue. Mr Lowe has co-ordinated the printing of this issue and will edit the second issue. It is intended at this stage that APME will be produced alternately by the respective universities involved in its foundation. We are also anxious to encourage guest editors to produce issues on special topics.

Can we provide a forum capable of bringing together divergent interests in a crucial and challenging area of education and practice? Can we provide a congenial meeting place for scholars to meet practitioners in a rewarding and attractive intellectual environment? The success of APME depends very much on your guidance and contributions.

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