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Editorial: In this issue

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A journal's as good as the articles it receives. Now in its fifth issue, APME has received articles ranging from critical commentaries and research papers to the occasional light features from those who see themselves more as journalists who write to tell a story, than academics who write to abstract a theory.

We said in Issue No.1 (July-December 1997) that we would provide a congenial meeting place for scholars to meet practitioners in a rewarding and attractive intellectual environment. We have fallen short of that provision for lack of insightful contributions from the journalist. Articles refereed thus far have ranged from descriptive textual analyses of media representations to contentious discourse on the pragmatics and theories of journalism education.

This issue leads with a practical insight into cultural-specific professional training in broadcast journalism in the Pacific islands, professional education for communicators in Australia, and, as a divergent into communication studies, the influence of television on children's self-representation. Notwithstanding the perceptual gap between media/cultural studies and professional journalism education, APME aims to converge the two fields of study in future issues.

Thus, Issue No.6 (January - June 1999) will expand on the subject of media representation and its implications for media research and analysis. Guest editor is **Alaine Chanter**, director of the Department of International Communication, University of Canberra.

Issue No.7 (July-December 1999) will focus on the training and education of foreign correspondents. Guest editors are **Angela Romano** of Queensland University of Technology and **John Tebbutt** of Monash University. The edition will address, among other issues, how we teach foreign news reporting, the specific competencies deployed in that form of journalism; how foreign correspondents are educated by the experience of reporting another culture; and how media organisations in the Asia-Pacific region prepare journalists for overseas assignments.

Finally, we would like to welcome the Institute of Communication Studies at National Chiao Tung University, Taiwan in joining APME as a publishing partner. We look forward to critical contributions by media academics and journalists from the North East Asia region. ■