



A Continuing Venture

From The Co-Executive Editors

It has been more than a year since we published the first issue of *The International Journal of Coaching in Organizations*. We noted at the time that this was “an awkward title!” As we predicted, the journal soon became known as “*IJCO*” or simply *that* “coaching journal.” We had hoped that in establishing this journal we would promote a critical distinction between coaching in organizations and those various forms of coaching that are often identified as “personal” or “life” coaching.

While some members of the founding Editorial Board felt that the journal should be more inclusive, we decided to focus on coaching in organizations, but agreed to devote one issue each year to personal coaching, beginning in 2004. This second issue of the 2004 journal is devoted to personal coaching—though the overall focus continues to be on coaching in organizations. The case is strongly made regarding distinctions (as well as overlaps) between organizational and personal coaching. Several new publishing ventures hopefully will address the needs of practitioners in the field of personal and life coaching, so that *IJCO* need not offer future issues on this topic. We

wish those who are mounting these new publishing ventures great success, for thoughtful writing and analysis is certainly needed in the areas of personal and life coaching.

We have also sought, through *IJCO*, to address a broader set of issues than those usually associated with the field of executive coaching. That is why the term “organizational coaching” is used. Through a rich diversity of articles that have appeared in the first five issues of this journal, we have attempted to stake out territory that is international, interdisciplinary, critical, and at the cutting edge of the field of organizational coaching. It is for our readers to judge whether or not we have been successful in this endeavor. To date, we have received many comments suggesting enthusiastic support which lead us to believe that we are moving in the right direction.

Another of our initial commitments was a little more mundane, but eventually of equal importance. We wanted to produce a journal that was of professional quality in terms of both content and appearance. This was not easy, given that we began the journal as an

independent venture, without any external funding—mostly a boot-strap operation with everyone rolling up their sleeves and pitching in during all phases of production. While the journal still is encumbered with glitches and gaffes, it is growing through its awkward adolescence. *IJCO* may soon be in its operational adulthood.

We now have a journal that is “perfect bound” rather than stapled. It has expanded from 48 pages to 54-58 pages (and may soon expand to at least 62 pages). We have a new website (www.ijco.info) and intend to have our publication’s Coaching Marketplace and Coaching Calendar, a benefit of sponsorship, posted on the website and updated each month. We also have a new corporate structure (“Professional Coaching Publications, Inc.”). Our exceptional editorial board is still providing it’s critical guidance and many

members of the board have repeatedly made gracious contributions to the journal (such as the editing and three interview-based articles offered by Agnes Mura, the regular column prepared by Mike Jay, the writing and editing offered by Sheila Maher, Suzi Pomerantz, Marilyn Taylor and Christine McDougall, and the hosting and editing provided by Leslie Hilton).

We are not yet thriving, but we are certainly learning! And we look forward to the continuing maturation of our journal and to your active support and thoughtful comments as one of our readers.

Bill Bergquist and John Lazar
Co-Executive Editors

May 18, 2004

***IJCO*: Request for Article Proposals**

Co-Editors: Leslie Hilton and John Lazar

Focus: Open Forum

Publication Date: November 2004 (Issue 4)

Goal and tone for this unthemed issue: To provide pragmatic, practical and leading edge discussions of topics of interest in the field of coaching in organizations. Visit our *IJCO* website, www.ijco.info, for the themes around which we’ve organized previous journal issues. Consider these themes, as well as other topics that may provoke reflection and dialogue, as potentially relevant for this issue.

Please contact us if you are interested in writing an article for this issue. Email your article outline or brief proposal to both of us by July 1, 2004:

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Timeline:

We have already confirmed initial authors and article topics, but are still accepting proposals. Your deadline for submitting first draft of article is August 15, 2004.

Guidelines and Style Sheet for article format:

General guidelines and a style sheet for those who choose to submit articles for publication in *IJCO* can be found on our website, www.ijco.info. The *IJCO* Editorial Board suggests that potential authors either subscribe to *IJCO* or read three to four issues to get a feel for the style and scope of articles that are published here.