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Editorial

Changing Times

I am sad that my Co-Editor-in-Chief of this Journal, Dr Bernard Wetchler, is retiring from this post with the publication of this edition. Bernie's achievements in the field of anaesthesia have been outstanding. Amongst a raft of prestigious appointments, he has been President of the Illinois Society of Anaesthesiologists, first President of the Society for Ambulatory Anaesthesia, President of the American Society of Anaesthesiologists and Vice President of the World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists. Currently he is Clinical Professor of Anaesthesiology at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Chicago.

As a surgeon, I have never had the privilege of working with Bernie and experiencing his expert anaesthetic techniques accompanied, I understand, by his first class sense of humour. However, I have had the privilege, since the inception of Ambulatory Surgery, of experiencing his outstanding organisational, editorial and literary skills. He has been a delight to work with and at all times a true gentleman. I will miss

his wise advice and thank him for his invaluable work over the last 9 years.

My sadness at Bernie's departure is balanced by the joy in the appointment of an able successor. The new Co-Editor-in-Chief of this journal is another talented anaesthetist, Dr Beverly Philip. Beverly is the founder and Director of the Day Surgery Unit at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston and Associate Professor of Anaesthesia at Harvard University. Like Bernie, she is a Past President of the Society for Ambulatory Anaesthesia and is the current Chair of the Ambulatory Surgical Care Committee of the American Society of Anaesthesiologists. She is active in research in ambulatory anaesthesia and has published widely on the subject. Her appointment, I am sure, will aid the growth and success of Ambulatory Surgery.

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