

# *Contemporary Accounting Research*

## **2012 EDITOR'S REPORT**

(January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012)

This is my last annual report on behalf of the Editorial Team I assembled in 2009-10 that took over responsibility for the journal on May 1, 2010. As it is *CAR*'s tradition, the "stub period" (i.e., the four months ending April 30, 2013) will be included in the next Editor (in-chief)'s report.

Our time at *CAR* has been a record breaking three years. In 2012, we hit another record for manuscripts submissions with 386 manuscript submissions from across the broad spectrum of accounting research. This is up from 293 manuscripts in 2009; a 32% increase. Even the look of the journal has changed over these three years (for those of us who still like our paper copies). Following our move to a larger footprint (i.e. page size) in 2011, *CAR* had a creative redesign to the journal cover in 2012 consistent with the Canadian Academic Accounting Association's branding strategy. This was the first redesign of the journal cover since the founding of the journal in 1984 and gives the journal a fresher look that is consistent with our on-line presence. However, the redesign kept our defining deep blue colour as its base.

The past three years have been an exciting time at *CAR*. Among our accolades and innovations are:

1). External recognition of the journal's quality

- In 2010 *CAR* joined the *Financial Times* list of influential journals that they track as part of their rankings of various graduate programs (i.e. the *FT* 45);
- In 2012 an article published in *CAR* was recognized by **German Academic Association for Business Research 2012 Best Paper Award** (J. Martini, R. Nienmann, and D. Simons, 2012. "Transfer pricing or formula apportionment? Tax induced distortions . . . . ." *Contemporary Accounting Research* 29(4): 1060-1086.) This award meant that the paper is considered the best international academic publication across *all* sub-disciplines of business in the year 2011/12 by German speaking faculty members.
- Articles published in *CAR* were honoured with the:
  - **American Accounting Association's (AAA) 2010 Distinguished Contribution to Accounting Literature Award** (Patricia Dechow, Richard Sloan, and Amy Sweeney. 1996. "Causes and consequences of earnings manipulations: An analysis of firms subject to enforcement actions by the SEC," *Contemporary Accounting Research* 13 (1): 1-36.);
  - **AAA Management Accounting Section's 2012 Greatest Impact on Practice Award** (Brüggen, Alexander, Ranjani Krishnan, and Karen L. Sedatole. 2011. "Drivers and Consequences of Short-Term Production Decisions: Evidence from the Auto Industry." *Contemporary Accounting Research* 28(1): 83-124.); and
  - **AAA Audit Section's 2012 Notable Contributions to Auditing Research Award** (Jeffery Cohen (Boston College), Ganesh Krishnamoorthy

(Northeastern University), and Arnold Wright (Northeastern University). 2002, "Corporate Governance and the Audit Process." *Contemporary Accounting Research*, 19(4): 573-594.)

- In 2012 *CAR* received notice that its support from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council was renewed in light of the stellar evaluations the journal received for the period 2012-15 at the maximum amount awarded for support of scholarly journal. These funds are received from the SSHRC's Program to Aid Scholarly Journals. We thank the SSHRC for their on-going support of our journal as renewal of SSHRC support is not automatic.

## 2) Innovations from within

- Established normative criteria for responsiveness to authors. The goal is that 90% (originally 95%) of all manuscripts be processed within 100 days of receipt at the Editorial Office. While this has proved to be a stretch goal, we are hitting it at over 80% of the time and have had the median time for a manuscript processed decline from 97 days (regular) in 2008 to 70 days in 2012, a 25% reduction in length to first round decision for regular submissions.
- Utilized our new alliance with Wiley-Blackwell to make accepted manuscripts available on-line within weeks under the Accepted Articles program and to ensure that the typeset version of the article appears as soon as possible after that in Early Views. This made *CAR* the first adopter among accounting association journals of this practice and indeed *CAR* is still ahead of accounting association journals with its Accepted Articles program. Further, our processes are competitive with what the best private sector accounting journals do.
- *CAR* became the first major accounting journal to publicly recognize excellence among our reviewers. The 2012 winners were:
  - Daniel Cohen, University of Texas at Dallas;
  - Jeffrey Hales, Georgia Institute of Technology and INSEAD;
  - Linda A. Myers, University of Arkansas; and
  - Laurence van Lent, Tilburg University.

These excellent reviewers joined our 2011 winners (Joan Luft, Judson Caskey, Eddie Riedl and Sarah McVay).

- Implemented an innovative (to accounting research) new approach to journal reviewing that we called the Senior Scholar One Round Review. SOAR allows senior scholars (i.e., those with an established reputation for excellence and who know the difference between their best and not so good work) to opt into a one round review format: "*Thumbs Up or Thumbs Down*." At the end of the first and only round of reviews the paper is either accepted for publication or is rejected from the journal.
- Implemented a series of Editorial Board meetings around the world for the first time in the history of *CAR*. Successful Editorial Board meetings were held three times at the Canadian Academic Accounting Association's Annual Conference, twice at the American Accounting Association's Annual Meeting, once at the European Accounting Association's Annual Congress, and once at the Accounting and Finance Association of Australia and New Zealand Conference.

- Held a major celebration to mark the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary *CAR* Conference and for the first (and potentially only) time produced a stand-alone Silver Anniversary issue of the journal published exactly one year after the Conference was held. *CAR* Conference papers normally are published (with their associated discussant's comments) as part of the regular manuscript flow of the journal to allow the paper to be refined on the authors' timeline after the Conference. It also allows the Editor to select papers that may be a bit "rougher around the edge." We did not change the selection criteria for the 25<sup>th</sup> *CAR* Conference but nonetheless with some very hard work of authors and discussants in collaboration with the Editors and reviewers seven of the eight papers presented made it to the Silver Anniversary issue published as Issue 4 of Volume 28.
- In conjunction with this Anniversary celebration we honoured our founding Editor, Haim Falk, with the title of *Editor Emeritus* and established our Honorary Editorial Board composing initially of William R. (Bill) Scott and Michael (Mike) Gibbins.
- Created the largest and most diverse set of Editors and Editorial Board members for an accounting journal in history representing more than 100 universities, all social science research traditions and methods as well as all substantive areas of accounting. The Editorial Board and Editor group was geographically diverse with Editors located in Europe, Asia, and Oceania as well as North America and Editorial Board members in sixteen countries while staying within the mandate that a majority of the Editorial Team be located in Canada or be Canadians abroad.
- During our first two years in office (the impact factor for 2012 is released after this report goes to press), *CAR*'s SSCI impact factors were the two highest ever received by the journal in its decade on the SSCI. However, our Team believes that *CAR*'s real impact is the attitude of inclusion it brings to a badly fragmented accounting research world.

In addition there was another initiative that I undertook that reflected more of a personal commitment to the journal, that is, **the creation of CAReditorsteve**. When I became *CAR* EIC I wanted a way to reach a broader audience than what in person appearances could do. Hence, my alter ego, CAReditorsteve, was born in June 2010 (<http://careditorsteve.wordpress.com/>). After a brief hiatus in early fall 2011 the CAReditorsteve blog has established a regular and faithful (indeed growing) community of readers – readers that do not always agree with him (see some of the posted comments). Thus, I became the first major accounting journal editor to blog. Definitely it is not part of the job, but it does give a great venue for me to opine and vent in what can be at times a frustrating job. While it is impossible to measure actual readership, the blog has over thirty followers who signed up for email copies of the latest posting and averages 200 page views per day representing 50 unique viewers. This suggests to me that the audience is roughly 400 to 500 unique viewers from around the world.

### **Thanks to the 2012 Editorial Team!**

The editorial team in 2012 consisted of me as EIC, Theresa Libby as Deputy Editor (in-chief), Colin Braithwaite as Managing Editor, Mary Lui who succeeded Nicole Nurse as Editorial Assistant, Nancy Shield as the Editor's Assistant and our renamed Editors (effective January 1, 2012 *CAR* bowed to the emerging world-wide consensus to label

Associate Editors with decision rights as Editors) and Editorial Board members. We also welcomed two new Editors, Partha Mohanram and Carol Ann Frost, to enable us to better serve authors. We also saw Editor Christine Botosan go on leave in April 2012 as she took up unexpectedly heavy administrative duties both at her university and at the American Accounting Association. At year end the Editorial Board was refreshed with new members leaving its size at about 148 members given departures for a variety of reasons including taking up Editorships at other senior journals.<sup>1</sup>

Now to keep with historical practice, and to allow future accounting historians to have a time series of *CAR* Editor Reports, the details follow. But skip ahead to the last two pages for the end of the more informal part of the Report.

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<sup>1</sup> Lucky we did raise the number on the Editorial Board as the new Senior Editor at the Accounting Review, following our lead, raised the number on TAR's Editorial Board to 143. Hence, we maintain our status as the journal with the largest and most diverse (that was never in question) Editorial Board.

## MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSIONS AND TURNAROUND

The number of regular submissions to *CAR* increased by 7.3% in 2012 to reach 293, while conference submissions declined from a recent high of 91 to a more normal level of 75 *CAR* Conference submissions. The Senior Scholar One Round Review (SOAR) experiment also yielded 18 submissions for the year contributing to a total number of 386 new submissions in 2012. The Editor (in-chief) [EIC] and Editors rejected (or rarely withdrew) 69% of all 2012 submissions (regular, *CAR* Conference, and SOAR submissions) in the first round. This rate is higher than in prior years consistent with the increase in number of articles submitted. Of the papers submitted from 2008-2012, the ultimate average acceptance rate is around 11%. *CAR* does not have an acceptance rate policy and the only time of the year we are aware of the actual acceptance rate is when we put together this annual report.

### First Round Decision Results (including withdrawals) 2008-2012

	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
First round rejections and withdrawals	69%	53%	58%	52%	56%

The editorial team at *CAR* makes every effort to maintain consistent manuscript turnaround times. Our goal is to have 90% (the first announced goal of 95% was deemed to be unattainable after the first year) of all first round manuscripts handled within 100 days of actual submission. We believe that this goal is achievable. As one can see from the table, the percentage of manuscripts with a decision within 100 days is now 81%. Further, our median turnaround time continues to decline for regular submissions down from 97 days in 2008 to 70 days in 2012, a decline of over 25% in turnaround time. Details of our turnaround times for the last five years are shown below:

### 2008-2012 Timeliness of Manuscript Feedback to Authors

Submissions	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008**
MS under 100 days	313	304	229	218	274
Total Manuscripts	386	371	310	293	322
% of manuscripts (with decisions) under 100 days	81%	82%	74%	74%	85%
New Regular (median)	70 days	72 days	77 days	85 days	97 days
Conference (median)	91 days	91 days	66 days	72 days	88 days
SOAR (median)*	67 days	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

\*NOTE about SOAR turnaround: We first report statistics for the SOAR program this year as the small number in the first year gave a misleading median response time.

\*\* Two conferences were held by *CAR* in 2008. The traditional *CAR* Conference held in Canada and the first *CAR* symposium held outside of Canada in Hong Kong, China. This resulted in 69 submissions for the Hong Kong symposium and 59 submissions for the regular *CAR* Conference. Leaving aside the Hong Kong symposium, the total *CAR* Conference and regular submissions in 2008 was 253.

## GLOBAL REACH OF THE JOURNAL

Of the 2012 new submissions, 161 or 42% involved at least one non-North American author, continuing the slight upward trend in international submissions. Consistent with our mandate to promote high quality Canadian accounting research, 61 or 16% involved at least one author at a Canadian university, a figure that is also consistent with prior years. Additional details of submissions for the last five years are shown below:

### Submissions 2008-2012 and Authors' Country of Origin

	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008*
Regular	293	273	246	231	194
<i>With Canadian author</i>	14%	13%	16%	9%	14%
<i>With non-North American author</i>	42%	42%	34%	35%	30%
Conferences*	75	91	64	62	128*
<i>With Canadian author</i>	20%	18%	23%	21%	13%
<i>With non-North American author</i>	45%	29%	39%	18%	34%
SOAR	18	7	N/A	N/A	N/A
<i>With Canadian author</i>	28%	14%	N/A	N/A	N/A
<i>With non-North American author</i>	11%	0%	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	386	371	310	293	322
<i>With Canadian author</i>	16%	14%	17%	11%	14%
<i>With non-North American author</i>	42%	38%	35%	31%	32%

\* Two conferences were held by CAR in 2008. The traditional CAR Conference held in Canada and the first CAR symposium held outside of Canada in Hong Kong, China. This resulted in 69 submissions for the Hong Kong symposium and 59 submissions for the regular CAR Conference.

The four issues in Volume 29 of CAR consist of 1271 total pages (compared to 1668 in 2011, 1239 in 2010, 1233 pages in 2009, and 1209 pages in 2008). The goal is approximately 1300 pages per volume with 2011 being an exception given the special issue for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the CAR Conference. The four issues published in 2012's Volume 29 contained:

Regular papers	30
Conference ( <i>CAR</i> and JCAE/ <i>CAR</i> Joint symposium held in Hong Kong) papers	12
Discussants' comments (on <i>CAR</i> conference papers)	<u>4</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>

Of the 46 published papers and comments, 7 (15%) were authored or co-authored by faculty at Canadian universities while 10 (22%) were authored or co-authored by a faculty at a non-North American university. Breakdown by country of origin follows:

**Published Papers: Country of Origin of Authors or Co-Authors 2008-2012**

	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Papers with a Canadian author or co-author	7 (15%)	12 (21%)	8 (22.2%)	6 (14.6%)	3 (7.5%)
Papers with a non-North American author or co-author	10 (22%)	14 (25%)	8 (22.2%)	10 (23.4%)	6 (15%)

**SUBSTANTIVE ACCOUNTING AREA AND METHODOLOGICAL BREADTH**

The tables on the next page present a summary of the types of papers submitted to *CAR* by substantive accounting area and research paradigm. In 2010, to reflect *CAR*'s on-going commitment to being an inclusive journal, we expanded the categories in these tables' categories to reflect the breath of our submissions. With respect to substantive subject matter, we broke out the category Accounting Information Systems (AIS) whose manuscripts had previously been categorized as either audit or management accounting depending on the subject matter. With respect to method we broke out from the "other" category those manuscripts employing field study like methods including cases and surveys. Nonetheless we still receive manuscripts that cannot be fit into our tabulation scheme; hence the "other method" and "other" subject matter categories survive, albeit with much lower numbers than before.

### Regular Submissions: Accounting Area and Methodology

<b>Accounting Area:</b>	Auditing	Managerial	Financial	Taxation	AIS*	Other	<b>2012 Total</b>	2012 % Total	2011 % Total	2010 % Total	2009 % Total
<b>Method:</b>											
Analytical	6	2	9	1			18	6.1%	4.8%	7%	6%
Experimental	14	9	8	2			33	11.3%	11.4%	16%	14%
Empirical	50	16	133	16			215	73.4%	68.8%	69%	74%
Case/ Field study/ survey	7	6	5				18	6.1%	6.2%	5%	0%
Other/Any method			1		4	4	9	3.1%	8.8%	4%	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
2012 %	26.3%	11.3%	53.2%	6.5%	1.4%	1.4%	100%				
2011 %	27.5%	8.8%	50.5%	4.8%	1.5%	6.9%	100%				
2010 %	27%	15%	54%	3%	n/a	2%	100%				
2009 %	27%	11%	58%	4%	n/a	0%	100%				

### Conference Submissions: Accounting Area and Methodology

<b>Accounting Area:</b>	Auditing	Managerial	Financial	Taxation	AIS*	Other	<b>2012 Total</b>	2012 % Total	2011 % Total	2010 % Total	2009 % Total
<b>Method:</b>											
Analytical			2				2	2.7%	7.7%	6%	8%
Experimental	14	5	2	1			22	29.3%	15.4%	5%	18%
Empirical	8	5	25	1			39	52%	68.1%	83%	71%
Case/ Field study/survey		6		1			7	9.3%	4.4%	6%	0%
Other/any method					3	2	5	6.7%	4.4%	0%	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
2012 %	29.3%	21.3%	38.7%	4.0%	4.0%	2.7%	100%				
2011 %	25.3%	18.7%	49.5%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	100%				
2010 %	33%	12.5%	51.5%	3%	n/a	0%	100%				
2009 %	18%	18%	58%	6%	n/a	0%	100%				

\*Category added in 2010. Previously, manuscripts in this category were included in auditing or management accounting depending on subject matter.



## 27<sup>th</sup> CAR CONFERENCE

The 27<sup>th</sup> *Contemporary Accounting Research* (CAR) Conference was held on October 26–27, 2012 in Ottawa at the fabled Fairmont Château Laurier Hotel immediately adjacent to both Canada’s Parliament buildings and the U.S. Embassy. The Conference had 134 invited guests.

Holding the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual *Contemporary Accounting Research* Conference in Canada’s national capital, Ottawa, raised the question in the minds of the Editorial Team of does accounting matter? Indeed, the belief that it does matter is probably the one thing that unites all accounting scholars, irrespective of method, methodology, or paradigm, in a resounding “YES!” Yet, frequently, researchers fail to tie their research into its implications for those involved with governance and management—be they in the private sector, the public sector, or the third sector (i.e., not-for-profit or non-governmental organizations). Hence, we called for papers that demonstrate clearly a link to why “*Accounting Matters!/La pertinence de la comptabilité*” (or indeed shows where it does not matter) and for whom it matters. Another way of framing this issue is as Ed Swanson did (CAR 2004, pp. 223–255). In Swanson’s examination of the *q-r* model of research he posed the question: Is the emphasis on *r*, the “rigour” of the research method and exposition, affecting the ability of accounting researchers to deal with what matters, or *q*, “the inherent importance and interest of the main ideas of the paper”?

Eight papers comprised the conference program. They reflected an excellent cross-section of papers from financial accounting, management accounting, taxation, and corporate governance, employing a variety of research paradigms. Each paper reported on, by the means it deemed most appropriate, how the research made a clear contribution to the theme of whether “*Accounting Matters!/La pertinence de la comptabilité*.”

In keeping with the newer (post 2000) format of the CAR Conference, a social event was held on Friday evening at the National Gallery of Canada—one of the world’s most respected art institutions and renowned for its exceptional Canadian and international art collections. The dinner included an unguided tour of the Canadian galleries where the EIC strongly suggested that all view the paintings of Canada’s Group of Seven generally considered in the art world as the first original school of painting to arise in Canada.

In addition we honoured retiring Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountant’s Vice President (Standards), Ron Salole, for his work with the academic accounting community over the last three decades. Among those accomplishments cited included one that was of special importance to the audience, the CICA’s platinum level sponsorship of the CAR Conference. Overall, the 27<sup>th</sup> CAR Conference was a great success and provided an excellent opportunity for members of the academic accounting community to explore issues within the purview of this year’s theme “*Accounting Matters!/La pertinence de la comptabilité*.”

## Ph.D. CONSORTIUM

A day prior to the CAR Conference, the 2012 Ph.D./Junior Faculty Consortium took place. The Ph.D. Consortium included 28 participants of whom 21 were Ph.D. students (11 qualified for, or shared, the CAAA attendance subsidy). For the second time, the Consortium was open to those from outside Canada on a space available basis with four international attendees participating. The Consortium’s program entitled, “**Balancing ‘q’ and ‘r’: Rigour and Relevance in Financial and Managerial Accounting Research**,” highlighted both the

rigour and relevance using the papers in the 2012 *CAR* Conference as illustrations. The day was divided into two sessions. By the end of the day participants of the consortium had a greater appreciation for the *CAR* Conference papers and the substantive and methodological challenges they raised. The consortium speakers and topics were:

*Issues in Financial Accounting Research*

**Katherine Schipper** (Duke University)

*Research in Management Accounting*

**Ranjani Krishnan** (Michigan State University)

The last hour of the consortium was reserved for Ph.D. students and junior faculty to have small group discussions with the workshop's presenters in an informal setting. The quality of the two presenters and the challenging work program they provided to attendees gave the Canadian doctoral students a glimpse of life as a doctoral student at a major US doctoral program.

### **CRAFT OF ACCOUNTING RESEARCH WORKSHOP**

The Craft of Accounting Research workshop was founded by then *CAR* Co-Editor Dan Simunic in 1999 as a one day event prior to the start of the CAAA Annual Conference. The goal was and is to allow doctoral students and junior faculty to have an immersion into important aspects of accounting research such as the selection of research topics, the reviewing of academic papers and the development of research proposals all in a supportive environment that is meant to enhance the quality of research carried out by Canadian based researchers. This year we also admitted, on a space available basis, five international attendees. The workshop was facilitated by *CAR*'s Editor (in-chief), Steve Salterio, with assistance of two members of the *CAR* Editorial Team: Theresa Libby (Deputy Editor (in-chief)) and Gordon Richardson (a former EIC and current Consulting Editor). The theme as usual was simple: "*The Craft of Accounting Research: Planning, Performing, and Publishing Research in Accounting Broadly Conceived*" and was held on May 31, 2012 in Charlottetown, PEI. This interactive workshop discussed issues and problems involved in planning and performing research, preparing manuscripts for submission to a journal, and responding to reviewer comments as well as making suggestions to four doctoral students about how they might improve their proposed research designs. Nine junior faculty members and 14 Ph.D. students for a total of 23 registrants attended. Thirteen Ph.D. students received subsidies from the CAAA (up to \$500 each) for travel and housing.

## OTHER ACTIVITIES AS EDITOR (in-chief)

As I told the CAAA Executive and Board when the EIC position was offered in the fall of 2008, I intended to be an activist editor – one that would push the agenda of **international**, **inclusive** and **intellectual** to the fullest. *CAR* indeed is the only senior accounting journal that can support a claim to be truly **Internationally** based – with editors and editorial board members from around the world, **Inclusive** - welcoming all types of accounting research that feature **Intellectual** rigour as judged by experts in that substantive area of accounting research. I must say as EIC I revel in seeing the diverse topics and research approaches reported on in the journal. In furthering this agenda I have spoken at Editor's or Research Panels at the American Accounting Association Annual Meetings, AAA New Faculty Consortium, AAA Section Meetings, and the European Accounting Association Annual Congress and the Accounting and Finance Association of Australia and New Zealand Annual Congress. In addition, wherever possible I have attended smaller conferences including the International Symposium on Audit Research (in 2012 in Tokyo), the Global Management Accounting Research Symposium (in 2011 in Sydney) among others. Attendance at these forums have allowed me to contribute to raising *CAR*'s profile around the world.

Speaking with doctoral students has been a special part of my work as *CAR* EIC. In 2012 I had the privilege of being the first non-American based scholar to be invited to speak at **The PhD Project Accounting Doctoral Students Association Conference** often known simply as the Ph.D. Project. This Association supports the Ph.D. studies of underrepresented groups in the American business school environment. It was a real honour to be asked to attend and I ended up spending significantly more time with this amazing group of students than I had anticipated going in. In addition, in 2012 I gave mini versions of the Craft of Accounting Research workshop to doctoral students in Seoul, Paris and Leuven. It was also my great pleasure to participate for the third time in the AAA Audit Section Doctoral Consortium. It is amazing to see how these bright young minds are so receptive to the *CAR* message of diversity in accounting research.

## CONCLUSION

Overall, 2012 was a very successful year for *Contemporary Accounting Research*. On a personal level the demands on my time have been great. I thank my spouse and my son for their support at this time, as they suffer the most for even when I am physically present I am often miles away. I also want to thank the great *CAR* team of Editors supported ably by a very active and committed Editorial Board with the assistance of the Consulting Editors whose behind-the-scenes advice is much appreciated. I want to thank my assistant, Nancy Shield, who creates the space that I need to do my job as an EIC, a teacher and a researcher as well as the *CAR* office staff in Toronto, Managing Editor Colin Braithwaite and new to *CAR* this year Editorial Assistant Mary Liu, who work long and hard for the journal.

In conclusion, I have very much enjoyed the editing side of my role as *CAR* EIC. The working with doctoral students, young authors, and more senior authors attempting to manage the diverse pressures on modern academia on their time, as well as the regular academic normal science scholarship, has been one of my great joys in life. The having a platform to clearly enunciate a Canadian set of values about a journal that from the start has been **International**, **Inclusive** and **Intellectually rigorous** and to hopefully influence the discourse in the accounting world was very much appreciated. The creating of an Editorial Team that agreed with these principles even if they did not always necessarily agree with the published outcomes

shows that there are a large number of very open-minded scholars in accounting. This Team and the product of its work which will continue well into 2014 in the published journal demonstrates that accounting research can truly be a diverse and exciting intellectual endeavour that can have great impact on policy makers, regulators, standard setters and can affect the lives of practitioners and students.

Respectfully submitted,

***Steve***

**Steve Salterio**  
**Editor (in-chief), *Contemporary Accounting Research***

April 1, 2013