Two and a half years ago, I stepped into a role that was previously occupied by one of the best researchers, academics, mentors, editors, and friends that I have ever met. Taking the position of editor after Dr. Melanie M. Domenech Rodríguez was a daunting task; what I soon realized was that she had created the perfect platform for the Journal to grow in fantastic ways. This editorial summarizes the past 2½ years of the Journal under my leadership, and offers insight to the future of the Psi Chi Journal of Psychological Research.

One of the most notable changes to the Journal is that we now have five associate editors. With the growth of the Journal, it was necessary to grow our editorial team. With input from my extraordinary (and I do not use that word lightly) managing editor, Bradley Cannon, I made the decision to bring on two amazing academics: Dr. Tammy Lowery Zacchilli and Dr. Erin E. Ayala, as well as Dr. Steven Kohn, who spent a year on our team from July 2016 through June 2017. Both Drs. Zacchilli and Ayala continue to bring unique views to the team, and they share the same enthusiasm for Psi Chi as the rest of the current associate editors, Drs. Mary Beth Ahlum, Jennifer L. Hughes, and Steven V. Rouse. It has been a seamless endeavor assimilating them into our Journal editorial team. Because we accept manuscripts from every field of psychology, it is vitally important that we have a diverse editorial team. These additions have enabled me to assign manuscripts to the associate editors that are more congruent with their area of expertise. Moreover, having a more diverse editorial team solidifies our goal to make sure authors will have the best review possible of their manuscripts. In other words, this is a win-win.

One of our biggest endeavors was to promote and implement the Open Science Badges program (see https://cos.io/our-services/open-science-badges/). The members of the Open Science Collaboration created three badges that can be applied to manuscripts that meet their criteria. Specifically, the badges recognize open science practices, and they demonstrate research in which the researchers share their data, materials, and/or preregister. In addition, the Journal created our own badge that represents replication research. In our field, most want to be the researcher with the cutting-edge project, but we, at the Journal, believe that there is a need to acknowledge that replications are necessary, important, and worthy of publication. As a result, you will find four badges offered through the Psi Chi Journal (see Figure 1).

With continuing support and positive guidance from Dr. Jon Grahe (Psi Chi Past-President, 2017-18), we took the support of the badges a step further with the release of the Journal’s first-ever Special Issue. For the first time, we asked long-standing associate editor Dr. Steve Rouse from Pepperdine University (CA) to be the invited editor. Once the call for abstracts came out, Dr. Rouse went through the submissions and invited nine authors to submit their manuscripts. Of the nine, eight were published, with one receiving all four badges. Dr. Rouse was extremely committed to the success of the Special Issue, and because of that commitment, the Issue was well-received, and articles are already being cited. Due to the success of the Special Issue, we are now collaborating with Dr. Melanie M. Domenech Rodríguez (current Psi Chi President, 2018-19) on a Special Issue focusing on “Education, Research, and Practice for a Diverse World.” We anticipate this issue to be published in the summer of 2019. This issue supports the presidential initiative and a goal of our Journal.

Additionally, in my tenure as Editor, I have been committed to having at least one invited editorial in each issue. My goal is to offer manuscripts that professors can use in the classroom to support learning, as well as having editorials that are informative for all readers. One of my personal favorites is “Institutional Review Board: Ally Not Adversary.”
unique responsibility and privilege to polish and platform for empirical research, we feel that it is our whole. As the leaders of Psi Chi’s sole publication universities have student journals—but there is only impact of our authors’ research. Many colleges and continue increasing the quality, dissemination, and resources, and doctoral-level guidance, we seek to faculty. Further, through invited editorials, example possible for undergraduates, graduate students, and process as educational and as manageable as psichi.org/page/JN_Submissions

and he also crafted an outstanding example masked pages and sponsor statements. Together, Lauren Bradley has put into making our submission page Addisonally, I appreciate all the hard work that Designer), and Bradley Cannon (Managing Editor). Additionally, I appreciate all the hard work that Bradley has put into making our submission page very clear. He has created templates for writing cover pages and sponsor statements. Together, Lauren and he also crafted an outstanding example masked manuscript posted on that page (see https://www. psichi.org/page/JN_Submissions)

Our goal for the future is to make the publishing process as educational and as manageable as possible for undergraduates, graduates, students, and faculty. Further, through invited editorials, example resources, and doctoral-level guidance, we seek to continue increasing the quality, dissemination, and impact of our authors’ research. Many colleges and universities have student journals—but there is only one Psi Chi Journal, which represents our Society as a whole. As the leaders of Psi Chi’s sole publication platform for empirical research, we feel that it is our unique responsibility and privilege to polish and showcase our members’ best work, which is why we have taken such care to develop our incredible and diverse doctoral-level associate editor and peer-review team. Further, in representing our Society, we are eager to continue finding ways to work closely with the many different groups within the Psi Chi Society such as the Diversity Committee, Research Committee, and Awards and Grants Committee. Through collaboration, we feel that all parties will benefit and be better able to support Psi Chi’s mission: recognizing and promoting excellence in the science and application of psychology.

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