One of the pleasures of aging is observing the young: the intelligence, activity, curiosity, and imagination. When the young follow in one’s footsteps, that is even better. It makes what we do seem important! This applies to our junior colleagues as well as to one’s children.

With that fanfare let me introduce the journal’s new Deputy Editor, Dr. Robert (Rob) Howard. He has been appointed by the International Psychogeriatric Association (IPA) Board of Directors and is in place. What does a Deputy Editor do? Well in a sense, he is the navigator, while the editor/skipper steers. He helps think out and organize the course of the journal: who we are, our constituency, our targets, our expected successes, and our collaborations. Who better to do this than Rob?

So who is he? He is a Reader in Old Age Psychiatry at the Institute of Psychiatry, London. He was educated at Cambridge and London universities in the UK. He has a very distinguished track record and has published over 100 peer-reviewed papers and chapters. His areas of expertise are brain imaging, late-onset schizophrenia, general and old age psychiatry, and the history of psychiatry. He comes from that fine stable of intellects at the Institute of Psychiatry formerly run by Professor Raymond Levy (a past IPA president). Rob, by the way, is that dapper and witty chap you see at meetings.

Rob is an engaging and amusing man who, while very kindly, is not one who tolerates foolishness and sloppy thinking. Just the person to maintain strict standards of medical journalism. So he will represent many things: lofty thinking, high standards, a competitive edge, and, very importantly, Europe. Native English speakers are in high demand as editors in the medical publishing world. Rob fits easily into that world.

So, welcome Rob—to help navigate and, hopefully, to ultimately steer the IPA journal.

Robin Eastwood, MD
Editor-in-Chief
St. Louis, MO, USA