We are pleased to bring you the first issue of Remedial and Special Education for the new century. The articles in this issue provide a variety of perspectives about research and practice in special education.

As special education enters the 21st century, I am reminded of the history of our field. An initial creation of the 19th century, special education had its roots in the early work of Itard, Seguin, Montessori, and others. In the 20th century, the field was formally launched as professional organizations, teacher preparation programs, leadership programs, and school programs proliferated. I hope that the 21st century will find the practice of special education reflective of a more mature and professional orientation that emphasizes the empirical validation of educational practices while continuing to advocate for individuals with special needs.

As a special feature in this issue, we include the second part of Dr. Thomas Lovitt’s reflections on special education and higher education. Positive response was received to Tom’s first perspective in Volume 19(5), Following My Severance, I’ve Several Suggestions—Confessions and Reflections of a Retired Professor. This paper provides further guidance from one of the field’s most esteemed professionals.

—EAP