
From the Managing Editor:

By Philip Langbroek

Our Journal's Progress

Since we started in 2006, this journal has slowly taken root in the world of court administration, by the increasing number of authors from practice and academia that want to share their experiences and research. It is important to show that everybody involved in the production in this journal works as a volunteer. I am not considering the countless hours it takes to write a decent piece, reporting on a court improvement project, or the sea of time it takes to conduct a proper research into aspects of the functioning of courts in a country and write a decent report. No, I am pointing to the persons that have reviewed a submitted text, within and outside our editorial board. Of course, Linda Wade-Bahr, from the U.S. District Court - Middle District of Florida, plays an indispensable role in the actual production of the journal, and we have several persons who volunteer to do the corrections of texts of non-native English speakers. I mention Helen Child, working in Honiara on the Solomon Islands, who has spent quite some time for the current issue.

Now that we are growing, we need to reflect on how we can better organize our volunteers, and make the journal function better. In a way, we need a further professionalization of our journal organization. We want more people from practice to share their experiences, but we also do not want to miss the research reports. Furthermore, we want to better show who are helping us in the publication process, and maintain a lasting relationship with them.

Apart from internal organization issues, we want to address the question how we can enlarge our audience by increasing the visibility of the journal. We are considering to publish the journal in a professional journal web-shell, facilitated by a university library (Utrecht). This will connect us with library databases worldwide and make us much easier traceable for persons outside our network. It will also facilitate our direct connection with court administration organizations worldwide. This comes at some (modest) costs, and in order to cover those, we need maintenance and improvement of our relations with our sponsors and advertisers.

We will give a presentation of our plans on Friday afternoon, June 15, at 15.30 hours at the Peace Palace venue of our Conference.

I hope to see you there!