



Editorial

by **Christopher R. Stones**
Editor-in-Chief

Shortly after the inception of the journal a decision was taken to publish a series of specialist editions, each to be overseen by an invited guest editor whose responsibility it would be to develop the special release in accordance with recommended guidelines.

After much deliberation it was agreed that the special edition series should be inaugurated by a core theme within the mandate of the journal. Moreover, there was consensus that research methodology – as a way of ‘approaching’ - undergirds all work within the social and human sciences as well as phenomenological thought. Consequently, as pointed out in the Guest Editorial, this first Special Edition has as its aim the presentation of a collation “... of papers that have implications for the ‘way’ of phenomenology, particularly in relation to the human sciences.”

Professor Les Todres (a Board member), who heads up the Centre for Qualitative Research and Psychotherapy in the Institute of Health and

Community Studies at Bournemouth University (in the United Kingdom) volunteered his time and expertise to ensure that this first Special Edition would be published with minimal delay.

Each invited paper published in this Special Edition was subjected to the same rigorous scrutiny and peer-review process that is applied to all papers submitted to the journal.

The current Special Edition on Method comprises seven papers each contributing a unique perspective on methodological approaches within the broadly-based phenomenological movement.

As Editor-in-Chief I wish to commend Professor Todres for his sterling effort and commitment in producing this first Special Edition that deals with phenomenological method.

We hope that readers will thoroughly enjoy the rich intellectual capital that is to be found in this release.

About the Author



Professor Stones has a lengthy academic and research career, having taught in the areas of clinical, social and research psychology. He is the Vice-President of the South African Association for Psychotherapy and past Chairman of the South African Society for Clinical Psychology. He is also an Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society and on the editorial panels of two other on-line journals. He has published extensively using both natural science quantitative methodologies as well as phenomenological approaches particularly in the areas of religious experience, identity and change management. Professor Stones has a part-time clinical practice with a focus on adolescents, young adults and families as well as individual long-term psychotherapy. Additionally, he is regularly appointed as an "expert witness" in medico-legal (civil and criminal) court proceedings.

Professor Stones' areas of research interest fall into the field of attitudes and attitude change, phenomenological praxis and methodologies, abnormal psychology and psychotherapy, spirituality and religious experience.

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