It is with great excitement and gratitude that I begin my tenure as Editor of the *Journal of Gerontological Nursing* (JGN). After introducing myself to you, I’ll briefly reflect on the past and look toward the future.

The reason for my excitement is JGN’s place of prominence in my professional history and in the history of gerontological nursing. As a new clinical nurse specialist at Yale New Haven Hospital more than 2 decades ago, I recall how thrilled I was to have my first article published in this journal. Gerontological nursing has come a long way since then, but many challenges remain as we continue to seek to bring geriatric content to the bedside and across diverse care settings. As we all know, geriatric nursing is a challenging, complex, and rewarding field that requires a diverse set of clinical, research, and teaching skills to advance the science. In fact, the field of gerontology is at a particularly exciting crossroads—researchers continue to find ways to extend life, but at the same time these advances lead to a growing world population of older adults and resulting challenges regarding shrinking resources. I can think of no greater way to widely influence gerontological nursing, improve the care of older adults, and impact global geriatric practice and research than through the dissemination of peer-reviewed, well-researched manuscripts. I have been repeating these words to geriatric students for more than 20 years. Now I have been given the opportunity and privilege to work with all of you in imbuing them with meaning in a more global and practical way.

Now for the gratitude—thank you to the previous editors, Edna Stilwell and Kathleen “Kitty” Buckwalter, who made this publication the go-to journal for gerontological nursing practice. Theirs are very big shoes to fill. I am grateful to the SLACK Incorporated staff for their crucial support as I transition into this role, and to the section editors, advisory board, and peer review panel for their work in making this an excellent journal. Your diligence and the high-quality submissions are the pulse of the publication!

Like many of you, I have made a lifelong commitment to gerontological nursing. I have been board-certified in gerontology since 1990 and a nurse for more than 25 years, practicing across all care settings, including the intensive care and medical-surgical units at the University of Cincinnati, as a head nurse in a nursing home setting in San Francisco, and as a geriatric case manager and clinical nurse specialist in both California and Georgia. My primary clinical setting now is acute and post-acute care, and I work in these areas as a Professor in The Pennsylvania State University School of Nursing and an investigator in two large delirium intervention trials funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research. These two trials are taking us into 11 different clinical sites across two states. I am also currently co-chairs with Todd Semla, PharmD, MS, an interdisciplinary panel charged with updating the Beers Criteria for inappropriate medication use in older adults. This update is being supported and sponsored by the American Geriatrics Society. In all, I love the contact with patients afforded by this work, as it grounds my research and perspectives on aging and refuels my love of geriatric nursing!

Looking toward the future, many aspects of this journal will remain the same—Kitty has laid a foundation of excellence with strong established sections that have been and continue to be well received by our readers and with an excellent panel and advisory board. In the next year you will see some new ideas and small changes too. JGN is on both Twitter (@JGNJournal) and Facebook (SLACK Nursing Journals), so please consider following us if you do not do so already. In addition, as we move forward I encourage you to offer input on the future shape of the journal. Please feel free to reach out to me and the journal staff with your ideas through journal correspondence and/or via telephone, e-mail, or social media.

Thank you again for this wonderful opportunity.

**Donna M. Fick, PhD, GCNS-BC, FGSA, FAAN**

*Editor*

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