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Beginning with this edition of Applied Biosafety, ABSA members will notice a change in our publications. At its recent meeting in January, our Publications Committee recommended to the Executive Council that our newsletter no longer be produced as a separate publication but rather be incorporated into the journal. The recommendation was supported by ABSA’s Executive Council and is now effective. The new “ABSA News” is intended to include information previously produced in the newsletter.

This approach brings many benefits to our members in addition to reducing publication and mailing costs. The new format provides ABSA members with informative reports together with peer-reviewed scientific papers. It enhances the scope of Applied Biosafety as a valuable resource for our membership and provides an opportunity for future growth. New sections of interest to our membership will also be included as part of the long-range plan for the journal. These include text from our conference’s invited lecturers, regulatory updates, and a learning center with information on books, videos, and courses.

In the last edition of Applied Biosafety, we told our members of the establishment of a memorial fund in Rich Knudsen’s memory to recognize excellence in scientific publication in our journal. ABSA’s Awards and Publications Committees are currently developing a detailed description of this award. Those wishing to make donations to the fund should make their checks payable to: American Biological Safety Association in memory of R. Knudsen and send them to 1202 Allanson Road, Mundelein, Illinois 60060-3808. For a list of contributors, please see the “ABSA News” section.

Bioterrorism and biosecurity continue to remain a topic of interest to the biosafety community. Led by our President-Elect, Barbara Johnson, our Biosecurity Task Force has been very active in developing information on security at biomedical institutes and facilities that work with, store, or transport pathogens and toxins. The information has been developed in the form of a poster. Watch for it at upcoming affiliate meetings and at our annual conference.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with an update to Penny Holeman’s article on “ABSA and OSHA—A Possible Affiliation.” The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and ABSA share a common mission to protect health and prevent illness and injury in the workplace. Both OSHA and ABSA recognize that collaboration is essential in addressing biological safety issues and are in the process of establishing a formal mechanism whereby the organizations will work together in the areas of training, education, outreach, and communication concerning biological safety in the workplace. My thanks to Penny and Barbara Johnson for their dedicated work in establishing this important alliance.