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JOSHA Editorial Volume 4 Issue 1

With this editorial, we are closing the first issue of 2017. Sadly, we do not have only good news. Even though this issue brings many outstanding contributions to our journal, we also lost one of our beloved colleagues. Professor Dr. Günter Hager passed away on February 19th, 2017. Our last two articles of this issue were dedicated to him. First, Prof. Roland Mertelsmann shared his colleague's life, achievements, and contributions both in the professional and personal aspects of his life. Also, Prof. Hager's colleagues and friends, Boris Paal, Uwe Blaurock, and Florian Asche, published their obituary speeches honoring Günter Hager's life, professional activities, and personality to those who knew him and those who did not. All the members of our editorial board will deeply miss Günter Hager as he significantly contributed to the conception and success of JOSHA. Personally, I am thankful for having had the opportunity of meeting Prof. Hager, working with him, and attending his inspiring lectures.

On the other hand, we are very proud to have started this issue with the contribution of the Nobel Laureate in Physiology and Medicine Prof. Dr. Erwin Neher, who shared his discovery of ion channels and their role in Pharmacology and Biomedicine. It was an honor to meet Prof. Neher, attending his amazing presentations, and having the possibility to publish and spread his work and discoveries to the JOSHA readership. Besides being an outstanding researcher, he is also an extremely kind and easygoing person, and it was a great pleasure to having the chance to meet him in person.

Moreover, this issue also counted with another exceptional contribution by Dr. Bujar Bajçinovci and his collaborators, who brought us the architectural reflection on the novel by Italo Calvino, 'Invisible Cities.' Following JOSHA's interdisciplinary concept, this wonderful work builds a connection between architecture and literature, both direct or indirect branches of the arts field.

Another highlight of this issue was the publication of the first 'chapters' of a series of short stories. First, Zazie-Charlotte Pfeiffer, who recently became a member of our editorial team as Assistant Editor, published her first short story, 'Prom Night.' Also, our editor Dr. Stephan Seiler published the first of eight stories by the German historian Gottfried Schramm called 'Missed Encounters.'

Prof. Fereshteh Ahmadi, a well-known Swedish sociologist and specialist on cross-cultural sociology, published her review on the ethnic identity of Iranian immigrants from a macro-sociological perspective. Her scholastic review is a paradigm for quality review papers in social sciences.

Finally, we advertised the Summer School 2017 in Wittenberg 'Enough. Concerning me' from the Evangelisches Studienwerk. This program is the result of this year's joint effort of German scholarship agencies for gifted students sponsored by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

We are very pleased to start the year 2017 with such prominent publications in our journal. We continue focusing our effort on delivering high-quality knowledge to our readers. Your contribution is always welcome!

Evguenia Alechine,
on behalf of the JOSHA team

In memorial of Prof. Dr. Günter Hager

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