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Editorial:

This spring edition is released later than usual due to major changes in the editing team. With the end of last year, Heike Gebauer left the group. She was with the journal right from the beginning – very mindfully investing a tremendous amount of time and contributing good ideas. Whatever has changed within the last three years concerning the electronic basis of the journal, its appearance or the formation process oftentimes was inspired by her. Also Michael Schurig has left the team. He, too, has worked diligently and endlessly. I owe thanks to both of them.

New in the team is Dr. Lina Hammel. She has joined the institute and will build up a new research line during the next couple of years. Working in the editing team and communicating with authors, reviewers and readers will be part of her job. This edition was already compiled by her.

Furthermore, there is change in the file formats: During the last years there was a growing number of difficulties concerning the html-versions. Many tables and graphs could not be integrated without destroying the layout. Tuning the softwares for writing and online-publishing and converting formats required more time than we could spend on the long run. Html helps web search engines to retrieve full text information which cannot be done in pdf-files. It is *not* meant to be read, other than some readers expected.

So in coordination with the scientific advisory board, we decided to no longer produce a complete html-file. The full text will be published only as a pdf-file. But abstract and keywords are as well uploaded as html. All authors are therefore kindly asked to take respect to that by offering longer keyword lists for future submissions. These will be sent to the German National Library (Deutsche Nationalbibliothek) and are accessible that way to search engines. We hope this will improve our work.

The support by the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft) has ceased last year. Our final report was not only accepted, but highly appreciated by the reviewers: The journal was found to fill a gap and publish high quality papers. This reassures us and gives us hope for the future. Of course, this positive feedback also addresses the authors and reviewers...

In this edition, Viola Hofbauer and Christian Harnischmacher publish a paper that documents the influence of prejudices on the assessment of music classes. Thereby, they address the diagnostic competence, a key topic in professionalizing future teachers.

Verena Weidner and Valerie Krupp report on music education research conferences in Paderborn (AMPF) and Exeter (RIME). Also there are reviews of Jens Knigge's award winning book on assessment tests (Abel-Struth-Preis) and Katja Hofmann's book on auditory skills of primary school children.

The special edition on musical self-concepts has been postponed until next fall.

Andreas Lehmann-Wermser

Electronic version:

<http://www.b-em.info/index.php?journal=ojs&page=article&op=view&path%5B%5D=83&path%5B%5D=237>

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