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The special issue on assessment is finally here. Two very different articles highlight the various stages of conducting assessment within a recreational sports program. The Haines article discusses a model of assessment, while the Hardin article links learning outcomes to assessment. I would like to thank Dr. Gordon Nesbitt, a long time member of the Recreational Sports Journal editorial board who is from Millersville University, for serving as the guest editor of this issue, and for his diligence and patience in working with the assessment manuscripts in particular.

The Recreational Sports Journal editorial board underwent some changes recently. I would like to acknowledge the significant contributions of Dr. Susan Brown Foster during her longstanding tenure to the board as she bids farewell. Dr. Robert Barcelona is leaving the board after a second stint and Anne Wilkinson is also departing so she can devote her effort toward completion of a doctoral dissertation. I thank you all for you service to the Recreational Sports Journal and the profession, and I wish you well.

Finally, the recreational sports profession recently lost a visionary, a mentor, a quintessential professional, and a friend: Mike Dunn. Mike’s impact on the profession, on the NIRSA, and on hundreds and perhaps thousands of us has been profound. We were all aware of his interest in research, an interest he turned into the creation and host of the National Research Institute at The Ohio State University. What many may not know is that Mike never really thought of himself as a researcher. However, he was a great friend and supporter of the Recreational Sports Journal, and had some articles published in the Journal. Furthermore, along with Dr. Judi Bryant and Dr. Bruce Anderson, Mike co-authored one of the most pivotal treatises on the administrative reporting lines of a campus recreation program on a college campus. The short, but powerful, “Rationale for Independent Administration of Collegiate Recreational Sports Programs” (1994) was a milestone position paper that highlighted the differences between intercollegiate athletics, physical education, and campus recreation, and helped crystallize the importance of campus recreation programs in both the minds and actions of campus recreation administrators and university administration. This important document is available for your perusal in the Research Central area of the NIRSA website. For this, and his other incalculable contributions to our profession, I honor Mike, and say goodbye, we’ll miss you.