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# Editorial

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As I have always seen things, one of the more valuable and valued roles of the World's Poultry Science Association, and particularly of its Branches, is creating the platform whereby a dialogue can take place between those of its members working in research and those in industry. I further believe that an important part of the *WPSJ's* function should be to foster this interaction by representing as broad a spectrum of views as possible on its pages. In other words, it is invaluable for everyone connected with poultry science to be able to read, ponder and react to the opinions held and expressed by all the members of its Association. However, contrary to this state of affairs, the vast majority of articles submitted to the *WPSJ* come from the research community (the authors of all papers – 24 in total – published in your journal this year could be said to work in academe). The often-heard (my ears!) argument that industrialists are too busy to put pen to paper is an assertion that requires to be more robustly presented to gain my credence. Although I am prepared to accept that, given their background and career aspirations, it will always be that those writing most of the papers published in your journal will come from the academic environment, it cannot be right that the current bias prevailing in that direction should be so pronounced. When I checked back numbers of the journal to establish if this was typical, I found that, of the 100 or so papers published in the *WPSJ* over the last 5 years, only three could have been said to have come from commercial sources. This seems like an unhealthy imbalance. Over the past few years I have increasingly come into contact with the 'coal face' of the industry, and am more aware than ever before of the huge amount of knowledge, experience and vision that exists there. Yet, very little, if any, seems to see the light of day. It is my opinion that many programmes of research, both applied and strategic, would benefit from having first hand exposure to this knowledge and, as a consequence, be more relevant to the industry that they serve. The ultimate beneficiaries would hopefully be the industry itself, and perhaps even the consumer.

I am pleased to be able to include in this issue a full set of translations (French, German, Russian and Spanish) of the abstracts of the papers. At first sight this may hardly seem worthy of comment, particularly on the editorial page. But, believe it or not, the last time it happened was in Volume 52, Number 1, almost four years ago. My predecessor, Chris Hann, warned me of the logistical problems that the publication of the translations create, and how things continually conspire to prevent this modest aspiration. Even after only 11 months in post I now wholly appreciate Chris's emotions on this matter. I have, however, good reason to believe that a period of stability may be in the offing and I will return to the topic of translations in the next issue.

**Jim McNab**