

Message from the Senior Editor, Dr. Susan O'Neill:

The *Research to Practice* Biennial Series provides a forum for exchanging knowledge and ideas on important and wide-ranging issues in the field of music education. Each volume in the series places its topic within a contextual matrix of scholarship, inquiry, learning, teaching, application, evaluation, policy, practice-based research, and reflective practice. Each volume provides thought-provoking ideas and valuable insights on contemporary topics at the interface of music education research and practice. Readers of these books, therefore, gain a valuable insight into current thinking in the disciplinary study of music education—vital information for making informed choices and effective decisions in a sea of fluid change within an increasingly fragmented, multifarious, and unpredictable world.

Even though researchers and practitioners often work in different places and have different stories to tell, we share many common goals and concerns across the profession. We need to continue to seek innovative interfaces for exchanging views and establishing meaningful connections. We need to continue to create spaces for building and nurturing research-practice relationships between those who produce research and those who might use research knowledge to inform and infuse their practice. There are many possibilities to explore and lessons to learn from those who succeed through persistent and concerted efforts on both sides. We need to listen to accounts from those who work in harmonious and productive partnerships as well as those who simultaneously straddle both worlds as practitioner-researchers in all manifestations. We also need to listen to those who find themselves on one side of the research-practice divide or who are isolated and marginalized through inequitable and unjust policies and practices. The *Research to Practice* Biennial Series aims to provoke purposeful dialogues and critical reflections on these issues. The stronger the research-practice interface the greater the potential for research and pedagogical innovations, professional growth, and long-lasting, effective educational reforms.

It is a privilege to serve as the CMEA/ACME Senior Editor for the Biennial Series *Research to Practice*. The dedicated members of the Publications Advisory Committee (PAC) offer leadership and guidance, and the support and involvement by members of the CMEA/ACME Executive and Board contribute to the overall success of this initiative. We would all like to express our sincere appreciation to my predecessor, Lee Bartel, who served as the Senior Editor of the Biennial Series from 2000-2009. For nearly a decade, Lee brought his distinctive voice, vision, and leadership to this role. His efforts helped bring to fruition four previous books in the series that provide a valuable resource for all levels and areas of the profession.