

Editorial

Axel Föllner-Mancini

For RoSE, the year 2011 was characterized by further journalistic expansion and the establishment of networks, particularly in the areas of academic institutions and libraries. The online encyclopedia Wikipedia currently lists our journal in three languages: German, Spanish, and Russian. For formal reasons, an English version is not available as yet. We are working on it however, and are confident to have an English translation of the article online in the near future.

Earlier this year, RoSE was included in the *Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)*. DOAJ is one of the largest portals for journals dedicated to the philosophy of free access to the results of scientific research. The directory is based at Lund University in Sweden. It lists journals that can demonstrate their own quality assurance procedure for articles, e.g. peer review, provide manuscript guidelines, and have a transparent editorial board. Following RoSE's application in November 2010, publication rights were granted within less than eight months. As a result, RoSE and all individual articles published in it are now easily searchable. In addition, all search options will soon be available in a number of European languages. Currently, these are English, French, Greek, and Turkish.

Another benefit of RoSE's DOAJ registration soon became apparent: Establishing a journal in university libraries can often involve long-winded verification procedures. Being able to rely on the 'authority' of the Swedish portal renowned for the thorough screening of each and every of its applicants has boosted accessibility considerably. The portal's reputation fast-tracked the listing of our journal in more than a dozen electronic indexes of libraries at universities such as Notre Dame, France; Lisbon, Portugal; Seattle, Washington, Hong Kong, and Melbourne, Australia, to name but a few. Thus, the seeds are sown for a gradual networking with institutions that cooperate internationally in the field of science.

Our efforts to develop the potential for dialog this year however, was not to be limited to technological means or institutions. The name of our journal, *Research on Steiner Education*, implies an unprejudiced, scientific approach with the ability to address, in substance and/or method, anything relatable to Rudolf Steiner's educational theory, anthroposophy, and any relevant disciplines or methods. In order to facilitate such a dialog in a dynamic, topical and open manner, the current issue of RoSE sees the launch of a forum to provide a platform for high-level discussion of controversial issues, to invite ideas and suggestions, and to reflect on readers' responses. Again, we endeavor to seek an exchange with anyone willing to take up the challenges of humanistic research beyond dogmatism and cantankerousness. The forum of the current issue focuses on the subject of *Anthroposophy and Science*, and refers to Jost Schieren's contribution. See also the introduction by Bo Dahlin.

Otherwise, the current issue follows its (almost) familiar structure: The section on fundamentals is followed by 'empiricism', with the third part providing the forum on *Anthroposophy and Science*. A book review concludes this issue.

We hope that you will find the contents lively and stimulating reading! Your RoSE team.