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Introducing the Journal of Direct Instruction

Direct Instruction continues to evolve: New programs are developed, existing programs are refined, new models of implementation are designed, new ways of enhancing effectiveness are discovered, new teachers learn about the power of DI, and more children experience learning and success. The Association for Direct Instruction (ADI) exists for the purpose of contributing to the evolution and expansion of Direct Instruction. One of ADI's important contributions is promotion of communication among researchers, policy makers, practitioners, and others involved with Direct Instruction through ADI's journal. ADI's journal must change to keep pace with the ever changing needs of the DI community.

Wes Becker, founder of Association for Direct Instruction, initiated publication of the *Direct Instruction News*, ADI's first journal. The first issue of *DI News* was released in the winter of 1982. The journal's name was changed to ADI News in the winter of 1984. Under Becker's editorship, the original newsletter evolved into a substantial journal that included research reports, description of effective practices, reports on successful implementations, theoretical articles on the theory of Direct Instruction, book reviews, and keynote speeches from DI conferences. By the time Wes Becker passed the editorship of the journal to Bonnie Grossen in 1993, the publication was much more than the name *ADI News* implied. At that time, *ADI News* metamorphosed into *Effective School Practices (ESP)*. Bonnie Grossen devoted untold hours to growing ESP into a more regular and even more substantial journal. She organized a scientific peer review process for research articles. She organized issues of *ESP* with specific focus on many of the crucial issues for the Direct Instruction community including effective preschool practices, middle school reform, school discipline and safety, DI in regular education, results from Project Follow Through, planning for DI implementations, professionalism, coaching and supervision, grassroots reform, and many others.

The development of DI practices, research on DI, and the community of DI practitioners continues. It has been increasingly difficult to serve the diverse needs of the DI community in a single journal. So the Board of Directors of ADI has decided to split *ESP* into two periodicals. The research orientation of *ESP* will be carried on and expanded by the new *Journal of Direct Instruction (JODI)*, edited by Nancy Marchand-Martella and Timothy Slocum. Advice on best practices and news of the community will be featured in the new *Direct Instruction News* (the name is, of course, a reference to our roots) edited by Sara Tarver. Each of these periodicals will be published twice per year; ADI members will receive four publications per year, two issues of *JODI* and two issues of *DI News*.

JODI aspires to be the primary location for publishing research on Direct Instruction and the primary source for information on DI. We hope that by reading *JODI*, members of the DI community can keep abreast of the current research that is most relevant to the practice

and understanding of Direct Instruction. Researchers can be sure that work published in *JODI* will reach DI teachers, administrators, consultants, and researchers.

Our primary content will be original empirical research on Direct Instruction practices and closely related topics. In addition to full research reports, we look forward to publishing brief data-based case studies that report on specific practices and student outcomes, but lack the control expected in more formal research. In order to meet our goal of informing readers of all research closely associated with Direct Instruction, we will also publish reviews of literature on topics related to Direct Instruction. Additionally, we will reprint important articles that are published elsewhere and would be of interest to our readers. *JODI* will also include reviews of books on topics that are relevant to Direct Instruction.

We look forward to hearing from readers on how well *JODI* meets your needs and we welcome suggestions for improvements.