**NEWS FROM CAROLYN FREEMAN**

21 January, 2013

Dear colleagues

Your Executive Committee has been busy this past year preparing for the Louisville congress but as well working on several important issues.

One of these is the **website**. The response rate to the questionnaire that we sent out was impressive and your responses and comments very helpful as we work to improve it. You will hear more of this in Louisville.

Another is our **Statutes and By-Laws** that have not been updated since they were first drawn up. We will be sending you soon our proposals for changes that we will discuss, and hopefully ratify, at the General Assembly in Louisville. The most important proposed changes are with respect to the Executive Committee. Specifically, we are proposing a new position, that of President-Elect. The person elected would take office one year before becoming President in order to ensure better continuity, with a total commitment then of 6 years: one as President-Elect, 3 as President and 2 as Past-President. As well, with the goal of stream-lining activities and capitalizing on interactions with other organizations, we are proposing a reassignment of responsibilities among Executive Committee members. Statutes and By-Laws would become the responsibility of the General Secretary, Publications of the North American Officer and SIOP Liaison of the European Officer.So please read the draft when you receive it. Send any comments to Shiao Woo who for now is the person responsible for Statutes and By-Laws, with a copy to Patrick Thomas who as General Secretary would take over if the membership agrees. If the changes are accepted by the membership, we would like to have a President-Elect in place soon after Louisville. Since we are a young society it is very likely that the Executive Committee will propose a candidate from among those who have been active in promoting our interests this past decade but we will ask the membership for other nominations for this position by at latest one week before the General Assembly. If there is more than one candidate for the position we will hold an election by email right after the Louisville congress.

An action item is the **recruitment/election of 2 non-MD Executive Committee members**. Since this is not a change to the Statutes and By-Laws but something just not acted on until now, our plan is to put out a call for nominations very soon in order to have these persons in place by the time of the Louisville congress. We have only a few (although, I must say, very committed!) non-MD members and this would be a good time to think about colleagues at your institutions who might wish to get involved in PROS.To close at the beginning of this New Year, a big thank you to 3 people: Christian Carrie who continues as Past-President to work very hard on behalf of PROS at many levels, Shiao Woo for putting together what we think will be a great meeting in Louisville in May, and of course to Elma Zerzaihi who consistently goes above and beyond expected to keep us all and PROS in general on track.

Carolyn Freeman