A note from the Editor

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y term as Editor-in-Chief of this journal ended officially at the end of last year. It is time to briefly look back and welcome the new editorial team. Over the past four years, we could publish 16 issues in total with a number of special issues. These topics covered: reflections on the "tourist gaze" (guest editor: Arch G. Woodside); new developments in the research of dark tourism (Avital Biran and Kenneth F. Hyde); perspectives on tourism in the Arab/Muslim world (Yvette Reisinger and Omar Moufakkir); contributions to building enduring place brands (Leonardo A.N. Dioko); the influence of culture on tourism planning, development, management and marketing (Brendan T. Chen and Christina G. Chi); service innovations and experiences (Mike Peters and Andreas Kallmuenzer); and "buying, behaving and being" and tourism behavior (Alain Decrop; see this issue).

I want to thank particularly these invited guest editors for their ambition to attract and select outstanding research results to be published in our journal. Apart from these singular contributions, I am grateful to have had three great Associate Editors, Kenneth Hyde, Colin Johnson and Scott McCabe, who assisted me continuously in the hard work of managing the review process of incoming manuscripts. Last but not the least, I owe a debt of gratitude to all the reviewers who joined us in our goal to get interesting and valuable research published and to develop the standing of our journal. After ten years, the journal got established and received a certain degree of international visibility and recognition. The publisher and the new editors however strive to improve the overall profile gradually.

I am very happy to welcome Dr. Serena Volo (Free University of Bolzano, Italy) who has taken over the responsibility as Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Culture, Tourism and Hospitality Research as of the beginning of this year. She has committed Prof. Donna Quadri-Felitti (Penn State University, USA) and Prof. Noel Scott (Griffith University, Australia) as her new Associate Editors. She will give an introductory editorial in the next issue. I wish the new editorial team a good future, success for their ambitious goals and a rewarding time serving the community in their specific roles.