

Editorial

N Sathyamurthy, Chief Editor

It is a unique privilege to write this Editorial. Indian Academy of Sciences brought out a white paper on science education in India more than two decades ago. An immediate action plan that followed was the publication of *Resonance – journal of science education* in January 1996, with N Mukunda as the Chief Editor. He and his team set up the format and the tradition that followed. Difficult to match the performance of the Founder Editor, but the subsequent Editors have done a remarkable job in keeping up the tradition. I salute all my predecessors and the contributors to this journal over the years, and the army of the Academy that has worked behind the scene.

With the change of times and an ever-increasing influence of the internet and the social media, the challenge is to keep the journal relevant and accessible, particularly to a large number of students who are eager to learn new things. It is important that they learn correctly. Hopefully, we as a team will deliver.

Any journal is as good as the contributions made by the different authors. *Resonance* has been particularly lucky to get eminent authors and young scientists to contribute articles at the pedagogical level. It is not easy to explain to the uninitiated. That is the challenge posed to the contributors to this journal.

An article-in-a-box that writes about a famous scientist (the essential requirement is that he/she is no longer around), whose caricature appears on the back cover page, reproduction of (a part of) a classic paper by the scientist, and other articles related to the work of the famous scientist constitute each issue. The journal is grateful to Subhankar Biswas for drawing the caricatures of the scientists, issue after issue, without fail. There are cartoons like Science Smiles by Ayan Guha that make learning less strenuous. The inside cover introduces a flowering tree to the readers



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by Professor K. Sankara Rao and his students.

The issue on hand focuses on Michael Polanyi, whose work in science is legendary. His philosophy of science, *Personal knowledge* (you know more than what you can tell), was not along the accepted lines. Although his student Eugene Wigner and son John Charles Polanyi received the Nobel Prize (at different times on different subjects), Michael Polanyi never got it. But that does not make him a lesser scientist. We are grateful to John Polanyi for permitting us to reproduce his article on his father.

Through this medium, I appeal to all fellow scientists to spare some time and write for *Resonance*. If we want our research to flourish and our country to do well in science and technology, we must enthuse the younger generation to take to science. While you enjoy doing science, you may like to share the excitement with the younger generation too.

May I take this opportunity to wish the contributors and readers of *Resonance* a very happy New Year!

