



## Editorial

It is with great pleasure that the Editorial Committee presents the second edition of 2010.

The articles in this edition cover a wide range of topics. As always, emphasis is placed on an integrated lifeview foundation that offers new insights into relevant philosophical, moral and ethical issues in the variety of disciplines.

There is a strong need for a theoretical-philosophical evaluation of the contemporary popularisation of values in order to give guidance to institutions. At the same time, it is necessary to accentuate the practical implications of such a value-driven approach. B.J. van der Walt investigates the nature and authority of values from a reformational perspective. The pertinence of this contribution is enhanced by concretising the study in the form of a case study of a value-driven institution of higher education. Writing from a different point of departure, J.L. van der Walt focuses on institutional identity and the problem of religion in/and education. He argues that the strategy of education policy makers the world over fails to achieve equilibrium on the universality-particularity continuum. The alternative strategy he recommends awards a place of centrality to schools' individual identity and provides a significant contribution to the larger debate. The arguments set forth in both of these articles warrant further discussion and response articles are welcomed.

A variety of relationships influence identity formation. H.B. Grobler works from a gestalt-theoretical perspective to shed light on fathers' and sons' relationship with God, and the role this relationship plays in the formation of their male identities. As indicated by C.S. de Beer, information processes also contribute significantly to the development of our view of mankind. He describes the emergence of the post-humane figure against the background of three specific shifts in our anthropological view. A rethinking of this anthropological view, it is argued, can open up richer possibilities in dealing with crises in contemporary societies.

The recent food scandals in South Africa bring a number of ethical questions to the fore. The study of consumer perspectives on ethical food labelling by M. van der Merwe and K. Venter addresses a gap

in existing research on food labelling. In South Africa, it is very important to promote the development of inexperienced, previously disadvantaged individuals. S. Schulze investigates how mentoring can promote research productivity and formulates three principles of support based on this study.

D.F.M. Strauss illuminates an insightful, though neglected, facet of D.F. Malherbe's legacy, namely his view of the independence and dependence of art and aesthetics. Strauss discusses Malherbe's analysis of basic aesthetic principles as they reflect the coherence between the aesthetic and non-aesthetic aspects of reality.

Last but not least, this edition also features a number of reviews of recently published books.

Many *Koers* readers have expressed admiration for the journal's new appearance. This is but one of the developments that the Editorial Committee has planned. In future, readers can also look forward to regular editorial letters, as well as a news section. There is a brand-new *Koers* website where articles can be submitted and comments can be made on previously published articles ([www.koers.co.za](http://www.koers.co.za)).

The *Koers* Association is also going from strength to strength with new initiatives and new members (especially younger members and affiliates from Africa) who have joined the Association. One of the decisions made by the Association which has direct impact on the journal is to emphasise *Koers*' locality in South Africa and Africa, while remaining relevant on an international level. It was also decided to host an annual conference in honour of *Koers*' 75-year existence. The theme of the 2011 conference is "Worldview & Education". This international conference will take place from 30 May to 2 June in Potchefstroom. Have a look at our website for more information about the conference: [www.koers.co.za](http://www.koers.co.za)

We are eager to hear readers' opinions about these new developments and look forward to response articles to extend the debates initiated in *Koers*.

**H. Hoogstad**

**Editor: *Koers***