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“... the best conference yet ...”

Editor's *note*

I write this having just returned from the National Conference on the Gold Coast. It was, I was told by many, the best conference yet. Shades of Juan Antonio. The National Conference is the best of what APLA has to offer its members. Information, strength and friendship. It was incredibly exciting to see the throng of Plaintiff lawyers laughing and talking at each session break. People from different States and different practices exchanging information and experiences.



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This issue of *Plaintiff* is devoted to the AMA Guides. The Guides have spread throughout the USA, where they originated, and now feature in 38 of the 52 States. Where they infiltrate the compensation systems, it is important to understand them and make sure that our clients get the best determinations possible. Where they are not used, it is essential that their introduction be opposed. To use the Guides as a means of assessing an entitlement to compensation is a corruption of the principles that our law holds dear - that we should assess the impact of the injury on the individual.

I am also proud to announce the formation of *Plaintiff's* revamped editorial committee. We have expanded the committee in the hope of diversifying the input and to create new ideas about the magazine and what it should be. If you have any ideas about what *Plaintiff* should or could be please let us know. ☐

GEOFF COATES Ballarat