Word Watcher to End Watch

Lorraine Loviglio, who writes the popular The Word Watcher column in Science Editor, has announced that she will step down as columnist. Her last regular column appears on page 134 of this issue.

The Word Watcher column, which deals wittily with the use and misuse of English in scientific articles and elsewhere, first appeared in the December 1996 issue of CBE Views, the predecessor to Science Editor. Loviglio was then manager of the Manuscript Editing Department at the New England Journal of Medicine. Loviglio retired from the New England Journal in 1998. Because she now watches fewer words and thus has less to write about, she has decided to retire as columnist too. Her many fans will undoubtedly welcome her contributions.

The column title “The Word Watcher” will be retired when Loviglio steps down as columnist. However, Science Editor plans to continue running pieces on wordly (to use a term from The Word Watcher) topics. Guest columns for potential publication may be submitted to Barbara Gastel, editor of Science Editor. Suggestions for new columnists on language use and other subjects are also welcome at any time.

Science Editor thanks Lorraine Loviglio for her delightful and instructive contributions—often the first items readers turned to when new issues arrived. For those who wish to consult or recall her columns, a list accompanies this article.

The Word Watcher

- A Dilation upon “Dilation” vs “Dilatation” (1996 Dec;19[6]:162)
- Begging the Question, Beggaring the Language (1997 Jan-Feb;20[1]:28-9)
- Of Weak Verbs and Strong Editors (1997 Mar-Apr;20[2]:69)
- Abusing “Using” (1997 May-Jun;20[3]:110)
- Trains of Thought? (1997 Jul-Aug;20[4]:147)
- The Frog, the Ox, and the Sesquipedalian Individual (1997 Sep-Oct;20[5]:171)
- When One and One Don’t Equal Two (1998 Jan-Feb;21[1]:26)
- Exit, Pursued by a Moose (When to Back Down—and When Not To) (1998 Mar-Apr;21[2]:73-4)
- “Catastrophic Care” and Other Disasters (1998 May-Jun;21[3]:98)
- Where Have All the Of’s Gone? (1998 Jul-Aug;21[4]:129)
- Lean and Mean (1998 Nov-Dec;21[6]:211)
- With Respect to Patients (1999 Jan-Feb;22[1]:19)
- De Novo All Over Again (1999 Mar-Apr;22[2]:53)
- A Day for the Red Book (1999 May-Jun;22[3]:91)
- Titular Follies (1999 Sep-Oct;22[5]:163)
- Rain Event, Rain Event, Go Away (1999 Nov-Dec;22[6]:205)
- Sense Takes a Holiday (2000 Jan-Feb;23[1]:23)
- You, the Word Watcher (2000 May-Jun;23[3]:96)
- An Editor Goes Into a Bar . . . (2000 Jul-Aug;23[4]:134)