



## FROM THE EDITOR

This issue of *Mousaion* has as its focus children and young adults as readers and users of information; information services to children; the information sources of children and, in particular, children's and young adults' books. Research has shown that a love of reading is established at a very young age, and guidance is therefore of the utmost importance. Reading is crucial to convey information, and even in today's multimedia society, reading is still key to becoming competent at making sense of society. After all, using new media also involves a type of reading.

Since 2008, *Mousaion* has published special issues on children's literature, and children and young adults as readers and information users. These special issues have proved to be very popular with scholars from various academic disciplines, which confirmed the obvious need for a publishing venue for articles on children's literature and children's reading. The Publishing Sub-Committee of the College of Human Sciences approved the publication of a new journal devoted to children as readers and information users, as well as their reading matter – in the widest sense of the word. However, due to pressure being exerted on South African academics to publish in accredited journals, and because it would have taken at least three years to get such a journal accredited (notwithstanding the fact that all articles would have to be peer reviewed by at least three blind reviewers), it was decided to postpone the establishment of a new journal, and rather to increase the annual frequency of *Mousaion*, which is already accredited, to four issues. Two of the issues will henceforth be devoted to children's literature and reading.

We trust you will enjoy the diverse articles appearing in this issue. Such variety is once again proof of the interdisciplinary nature of children's literature and reading by children.

**THOMAS VAN DER WALT**

Editor