

## Note from the Editors

In the December 2004 issue of *Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers, and Prevention*, an editorial titled "Genetic variation and cancer: improving the environment for association studies" (Rebbeck et al., *Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev* 2004;13:1985–6) suggested approaches that could be used to improve the chances of identifying reproducible, biologically plausible associations between genetic variants and cancer. Our perspective was that high-quality research could accomplish this goal using a wide variety of methods

and that no single approach would address all of the relevant research issues. The editorial was intended to spark debate about appropriate approaches for association studies.

The discussion continued with invited commentaries from a number of researchers (see *Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev* 2005;14:1359–65) and we encouraged our readers to join the conversation.

Here are two more letters on the topics raised.