This month the *Bulletin* explores the challenges of supplying enough human resources to achieve universal health coverage. In the lead editorial, Mozart Sales et al. (798) introduce the issue and the Third Global Forum on Human Resources for Health at which it will be launched. Feng Zhao et al. (799) follow in explaining the necessity for change. Alexandre Padilha et al. (800) call on politicians worldwide to pay more attention to their health systems and Viroj Tangcharoensathien & David B Evans (801) argue for better training on health policy.

In the news section, Claudia Jurberg interviews Francisco Eduardo de Campos (806–807) about Brazil’s effort to distribute doctors more evenly in rural areas. Priya Shetty (804–805) reports on efforts to train and employ more midwives in Ethiopia and Somalia.