

Editorial: Current status and future advances

Two years have passed since the new editorial group took over the editorship of the journal. High goals were set from the beginning - our ambition was to be the most prestigious journal within the field. We were well aware that this venture would be a long journey full of new challenges, and that there was no guarantee that we would arrive at our destination without going aground. During the past year, the associate editors, editorial board and I have steadily tried to promote JOR as much as possible, and I would like to take this opportunity to identify the current status and future advances for JOR.

First of all, we have not gone aground – we continue to receive a large number of original research reports from all over the world. Since one of our aims is to sharpen the profile of JOR, we have implemented the policy of significantly reducing the number of purely laboratory and in-vitro studies related to dental materials, and referring them to other key journals within this field. We may reject papers that contain information worthwhile publishing, but we do hope that the authors of these studies understand the change in JOR's aim and scope. We have also set very high standards for the quality of research reports and our rejection to acceptance rate of 3:1 continues to reflect this. We encourage publication of studies related to clinical oral rehabilitation and the associated oral physiology, since we believe that they should be the backbone of the journal.

Our initiative with the JOR Summer School in collaboration with Blackwell Munksgaard led to the first Summer School held in Bevagna, Italy on the theme: Oral Implants – implications for oral physiology. A series of reviews authored by the Summer School tutors will be published in an early 2006 issue of JOR. In the meantime, please visit the website: <http://www.jor-net.com> and get the feel of the fantastic atmosphere in Bevagna. We are in the process of planning the second Summer School, also to be held in Bevagna in September 2006. The theme is Oral Biomaterials – another topic, which I am confident that many of our readers will look forward to reading. By selecting timely themes for in depth analyses and

subsequent didactic reviews, we believe that the Summer Schools will play an important role in the promotion of JOR.

Since our takeover in 2004, we have been working with electronic submission through Manuscript Central and we are very satisfied with the function and facilities of the system. In fact, we have only had positive feedback from our authors and referees. We are in the process of migrating to the next version, and are confident that the new version will also work well and efficiently. In fact, thanks to our referees and Manuscript Central, we have managed to speed up the time from submission until the first decision to well below 2 months.

Another important event of 2006 is the introduction of "OnlineEarly", which means that once a manuscript has been accepted, it will be electronically accessible shortly afterwards. We are continuing to cut down on the backlog of accumulated manuscripts in the printed journal and are now down to a publication time of 4–5 months for most papers.

In order to reflect the dynamics and the ongoing development of JOR, a reshuffle of the editorial board has been effectuated. I would like to express my sincere thanks to the editorial board members for their support to the journal. I hope that they will continue to keep tabs on us in the future.

Likewise I would like to extend a warm welcome to the new editorial board members, and look forward to interacting and collaborating with them for the benefit of JOR.

Finally, I am happy to announce that the Society of Oral Physiology is now officially affiliated to JOR. This society and JOR go back a long way. We are both actively working for the promotion of oral rehabilitation with an oral physiological approach.

The report from the bridge is that JOR is keeping on course, and that soon we may see the horizon of our goals for JOR. Please join us on our journey!

Peter Svensson
Editor-in-Chief