

Editorial

The Changing Face of Fluorescence: One Year Later

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When I accepted the position of editor of the *Journal of Fluorescence* (JoF), I knew it would be a challenging position because of both the continuously changing direction (face) of fluorescence and the changing publishing needs of the fluorescence community, in terms of the rapid advances in the way we publish, retrieve, and read/review scientific material. Subsequently, during the course of the last year, we have successfully implemented a series of changes and restructures focused on addressing these needs, most of which have already made a notable impact. In particular we have:

- (1). Broadened the scope of the *new-look Journal* to incorporate more biological aspects of fluorescence.
- (2). Emplaced a new motivated and balanced Editorial Board whose expertise reflects the new broadened *Journal* scope.
- (3). Introduced new types of articles such as *Technical and Design Notes*, *Topical News Articles*, *Letters to the Editor*, and *Short Communications*.
- (4). Introduced both electronic submission and reviewing of manuscripts; at present, approximately 1 in 5 manuscripts is submitted electronically. This has substantially reduced the time for the review process for those manuscripts submitted electronically.
- (5). Introduced the electronic viewing of manuscript galley proofs (via pdf files).
- (6). Introduced a new complete journal referencing format, which includes article titles.
- (7). Introduced a new *Journal of Fluorescence* e-mail address.

These changes have been well received, which has been reflected in the increased number of manuscript submissions to the *Journal* editorial office, and the subsequent larger *Journal* issue sizes we have typically seen this year.

To further respond to the increased popularity of the *Journal of Fluorescence*, I am pleased to announce that we are now to increase the number of *Journal* issues to six per year, an issue therefore being published every 2 months, compared to the current 3 months. The first issue of 2003 will be published in January and an issue will be published every 2 months thereafter.

To enable the publishers of the *Journal of Fluorescence* (Kluwer Academic/Plenum) to distribute future issues on time, we have combined the September and December 2002 issues into one larger issue. Therefore only three issues will be published in 2002, allowing more preparation time for the six *Journal* issues to be published in 2003. This short break will also allow the editorial office to prepare for the publication of 50% more issues a year, which includes the further expansion of the editorial board, because of the projected increase in manuscript submissions, and the timely invitation of more topical reviews and *Journal* special issues. These changes are likely to result in the quicker publication of manuscripts, with downstream successes such as improved *Journal* statistics.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Joseph R. Lakowicz (Founding Editor), Mary Y. Rosenfeld (Editorial Assistant), Aaron Johnson (Publishing Editor [Biosciences] at Kluwer), and the *Journal of Fluorescence* Editorial Board for their hard work and input, making this a highly productive year.

I would also like to thank both the readers and contributors of/to the *Journal of Fluorescence* for their continued support.



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