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European Association of Urology



Editorial

European Urology is “Your” Journal

Dear Reader,

It is a major honour and privilege to write to you today as the new Editor-in-Chief of *European Urology*.

Because of the 30-year long invaluable leadership of Claude Schulman, Founding Editor of the Journal, *European Urology* has become a referral point of major importance in the peer reviewed urological literature. His exceptional leadership has also rewarded the journal with the 2004 impact factor of 2.65 - a 20% rise over a one year period [1]!

The new Editorial Team now has the responsibility of expanding the role of the Journal even further in order to address the reader's request of being continuously updated on the most relevant scientific innovations in our field.

To be successful when faced with a difficult challenge, it is essential to have a winning team and I am sure I have reached that goal already.

Following the example of Pierre Teillac, Secretary General of the European Association of Urology, who has been successfully leading the Association since 2003 along with the strategic support of a newly formed Executive Committee (Per-Anders Abra-

hamsson executive committee member responsible for Science, Christopher Chapple executive committee member responsible for Education, Manfred Wirth executive committee member responsible for Communication and Finances), I have also re-organized the Editorial Board of *European Urology*.

The Journal now has four new Associate Editors who are all very well known to you as major leaders in their respective fields. Anders Bjartell from Sweden, Christian Stief from Germany, Tullio Sulser from Switzerland and Alexandre Zlotta from Belgium have been sharing with me the daily workload related to the increasing number of manuscripts which are submitted to *European Urology* for possible publication.

The newly instituted Editorial Board at Large of *European Urology* is exclusively composed of the most active reviewers which have been working for the Journal over the last several years.

A journal bases its success on the number of readers and subscribers, authors and of course reviewers. We felt that our colleagues, who devote so much time and energy to carefully assess the scientific quality of manuscripts submitted to the Journal, should be recognized and have the most



Francesco Montorsi



Claude Schulman



Anders Bjartell



Christian Stief

**Tullio Sulser****Alexandre Zlotta**

active participation in the life of *European Urology*. Members of the Editorial Board at Large will be re-considered on an annual basis, to allow those who have been supporting the Journal most actively to achieve or maintain the most adequate visibility. I am sure you will note that the Editorial Board at Large members are coming from the five continents and this is a clear example of the interest that *European Urology* has attracted over its 30 years of life.

The Editors of *European Urology* will be supported by a newly composed and perfectly trained staff working at the journal's various editorial offices. Cathy Pierce is the new Editorial Office Manager in Milan. Patricia Bachmann, Liliane Di Maria, Beth Roby and Judith Carlen are the Editorial assistants who will support the Associate Editors in their demanding everyday duties.

There are a number of new and exciting features in *European Urology* that I would like to introduce to you today.

**Cathy Pierce****Patricia Bachmann**

The cover is brand new and it combines the orange colour which has been a part of the history of our Journal with *platinum* as sign of the level of excellence we want to achieve in order to serve you in the best possible way.

Pictures shown on the front cover are descriptive of the “Case Study of the Month”, a brief report detailing an interesting case study with significant educational content for our readers. In each issue of *European Urology* we will publish a new case study followed by one multiple choice question that will provide credits for the continuing medical education system sponsored by the European Association of Urology and by the European Board of Urology (EU-ACME system). In the subsequent issue of the Journal, the discussion section of the case study and the correct answer of the EU-ACME question will be published. We hope that this new Journal section will contribute to continually attract and maintain your interest to *European Urology* as much as possible.

Innovations in *European Urology* will continue in the new table of contents. Each paper published in a journal issue will be of course detailed with its title, authors' list and pages but in addition to this we have also included a short “take home message” that will allow the reader to have an immediate sense of the most important findings included in the article. The *European Urology* table of contents will also be widely distributed through email alerts sent to the massive email group of the European Association of Urology giving one further reason why we believe that this new implementation to the table of contents will be well received by our readers [2].

Full length editorials will be published ahead of review and original articles in every issue of the Journal as we are sure that they will capture the interest of our readers. These articles will come from recognized authorities who have been invited to openly express their view on a topic related to one or more articles published in the same issue of *European Urology*.

We are convinced that well written review articles on topics of timely importance are always well received by readers. We have already commissioned a large number of high quality review articles to the best experts worldwide and have been very positively impressed by the enthusiasm that has always accompanied the acceptance of our invitations. We will also welcome proposals for unsolicited review articles which will be carefully assessed by the Editors of *European Urology*. The submission will be sent for peer review and subsequently published if considered of interest to our readers.

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