

In 2017, we celebrate the fifth year of the *Journal of Vascular Surgery: Venous and Lymphatic Disorders*, the official publication of both the Society for Vascular Surgery and the American Venous Forum. Founding Editors Anton Sidawy and Bruce Perler warned us that the editors' work would be relentless but also overwhelmingly rewarding. We soon learned that they were accurate on both accounts! However, what has particularly pleased us has been the extent of support we have received from our editors, editorial board members, reviewers, and editorial staff. Success comes from teamwork and the JVS publications have that tradition. With this expert team's help, we have been able to rapidly introduce new features to JVS-VL. We are also well aware that the journey to continuously improve is challenging and never-ending. We recall, however, what Winston Churchill once said that the length of the journey "only adds to the joy and glory of the climb".

In 2015, JVS-VL was listed on MEDLINE, all articles have been retroactively cited since Volume 1 in 2013, and they are searchable on PubMed. In 2016, we received our first impact factor of 0.833, which we expect to rise as readership increases and papers are quoted. The changes we introduced in July 2016—such as redesigning the covers of all of the Vascular Surgery Journals to reflect each journal's focus on a specific area of vascular disease management—has received an enthusiastic response. The JVS-VL blue color reflects the journal's commitment exclusively to venous and lymphatic disease, concomitant with the decision that all venous papers will be published in JVS-VL. We encourage and solicit submissions from other specialties that manage venous and lymphatic disease, as we anticipate that JVS-VL becomes the journal of choice for all venous and lymphatic specialists and publishes research related to venous and lymphatic disease.

The American Venous Forum has had significant and welcome input into the editorial process of JVS-VL. We have modified the JVS-VL editors and editorial board so that venous and lymphatic experts are involved. Other changes include the addition of a concise summary, written by each author and inserted into the Table of Contents, for each clinical and basic research article and the addition of a "highlights" section for each paper, written by an editorial board member, which explains why the paper was selected, how it contributes to the literature, and the level of evidence in the paper. In addition, we are now producing an editors' review video of selected papers from each issue, which can be viewed on the JVS website and the JVS App, as well as providing an opportunity for each author to produce a video of their paper. In 2017, our quarterly journal will turn into a bimonthly publication, with significantly increased page numbers, which will allow us to publish more societal and independently submitted papers and an increasing number of systematic reviews and procedural technique articles. All of these changes add up to a sustained effort to continue the evolution of JVS-VL into the world's best and most influential venous and lymphatic journal—a proud product of our two collaborating societies, the American Venous Forum and the Society for Vascular Surgery, with substantial input of all North American Vascular Surgery Societies and our international contributors.

As new Editors of the *Journal of Vascular Surgery: Venous and Lymphatic Disorders*, we would like to thank our readers for their confidence in the changes that we have made in the journals—we will continue to respond to any suggestions. We are grateful to our editors, editorial board, and reviewers who completed their tenure in 2016, often after many years of excellent service. We welcome those new to the editorial process who will join us in 2017. We also thank our dedicated staff, Jessica McEwan, Alexandria Sese, and Tyler Cosgrove, as well as Elizabeth Perill and our publisher, Elsevier, for their continuous support in producing our state-of-the-art publications.

As we journey into a new year, we wish you and your families a happy holiday season and a healthy and prosperous new year.

Peter Gloviczki, MD  
Peter F. Lawrence, MD  
Editors, *Journal of Vascular Surgery: Venous and Lymphatic Disorders*

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REVIEWERS

The quality and integrity of scientific journals is based on a well-designed peer-review process: qualified peers, who are recognized experts in their relevant field, review and critique scientific articles, and recommend publication, revision, or rejection. Constructive criticism of expert reviewers is essential to improve the quality of the submitted manuscripts; a process that will ultimately increase the quality and impact of the *Journal*. Astute reviewers call attention to research not cited in a manuscript and point out mistakes made in the study design, analysis, or interpretation of scientific data. The *Journal of Vascular Surgery: Venous and Lymphatic Disorders* has been blessed with excellent reviewers. In 2016, for all *JVS Publications*, over 400 scientists and clinicians participated in the peer-review process. The Editors are grateful for their important contributions during the past year to our journal, to the authors, and to the scientific community.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ASSOCIATE AND ASSISTANT EDITORS

We would like to thank our Associate Editors for their contributions during the past year. Drs Thomas Brothers and Thomas L. Forbes served as Clinical Studies Editors of the *Journal of Vascular Surgery: Venous and Lymphatic Disorders*, and Dr Peter K. Henke as the Basic Science Editor. Their efforts to conduct an efficient, impartial, and timely peer-review process have been essential to the success of the *Journal of Vascular Surgery*. After 5 years of outstanding service to the *JVS* journals, Thomas Brothers will complete his assignment and the Editors express their gratitude for a job so well done. Peter K. Henke will continue his excellent contributions as Basic Science Editor of all *Journal of Vascular Surgery Publications*.

Gregory L. Moneta served in two capacities in 2016, as Associate Editor of our venous and lymphatic journal and Assistant Editor for abstracts for the *Journal of Vascular Surgery*. In 2017, we welcome him as Clinical Studies Editor of the *Journal of Vascular Surgery: Venous and Lymphatic Disorders*. Another Associate Editor for Reviews of the Venous Journal will join our Board, Dr Cynthia K. Shortell, as representative of the American Venous Forum. We are grateful for the 4-year excellent service of Dr Lois A. Killewich, as American Venous Forum representative, who worked as Special Features Editor of the *Journal of Vascular Surgery: Venous and Lymphatic Disorders*; she played a key role in establishing the *Journal* and she will remain on its Editorial Board. Dr Michael C. Dalsing will assume the role of Abstract and Book Review Editor for all *JVS Publications*.

In 2017, we will appoint two new editors. After 8 years of excellent service, Dr Richard P. Cambria will leave his post as Assistant Editor of Reviews and Society for Vascular Surgery president Dr Ronald M. Fairman will take over this challenging and important position. In 2017, Dr Paul J. DiMuzio will join us as the new Editor for Social Media and Press Releases for all *JVS Publications*.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE EDITORIAL BOARD

We received tremendous help from members of our Editorial Board, who provide frequent and expert reviews. They are carefully selected, based on an objective evaluation of the quantity, quality, and timeliness of their reviews. During 2016, members of the Editorial Board each performed an average of 14 reviews and accounted for 28% of all the reviews performed. Editorial Board Members in 2017 will have an additional task, as they write a "highlight" for each accepted paper that will be published with the article; board members will also frequently contribute commentaries and editorials.

The Editors would like to recognize the important contributions of the following Editorial Board members who, after many years of valuable service, will be retiring from the Board this month. We would also like to welcome new members of the Editorial Board, who will start their assignments in January of 2017.

### CONTINUING BOARD MEMBERS

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