Message from new Editor-in-Chief—Prof. Olaf Ortmann

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Archives of Gynecology and Obstetrics has a long and outstanding history. It was founded in 1870 as *Archiv für Gynäkologie*. Since 1922 it is the official journal of the German Society of Gynecology and Obstetrics (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Gynäkologie und Geburtshilfe, DGGG). The journal publishes reviews and original articles on clinical and basic research from all subspecialties in gynecology and obstetrics. The more recent history has been formed by H. Ludwig, Basel, Switzerland and K. Diedrich, Lübeck, Germany, who served as Editors-in-Chief from 1998 to 2010 and 2010 to 2013, respectively.

Outstanding staff, editors, associate editors, editorial board members and reviewers have greatly contributed to the success of the journal. Under the leadership of H. Ludwig and K. Diedrich, their outstanding work for the journal had major impact on quality and widening of the international contributor and readership. The journal still receives an increasing number of submissions; in 2012 it had 1,400+ submissions from all over the world. Manuscripts mainly come from European countries, Asia, Middle East, North and South America. Also, the readership is international; the electronic version of the journal is world-wide disseminated and available 24/7. Currently 8,439 institutions have access to the electronic version. In the last years editorial management has clearly improved with reduced duration of the review process and an average time of 17 days from acceptance to online first publication.

The improvement of quality is also demonstrated by the increase of the impact factor, which is currently 1.277 (Fig. 1).

From June 2013 I will serve as Editor-in-Chief and try to further increase quality and reputation of the journal. The main purpose is to publish high quality studies with reliable results that benefit physicians and their patients. The articles must be evidence based, clinically relevant and educational. To further improve the interest for the journal, 2 new sections will be introduced: “News and Views” and “Guidelines and Position Statements”. Please feel free to make suggestions that will improve the journal.

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Fig. 1 Number of citations, number of source items, and impact factors by year. Source: ISI-Web of Knowledge

Current Impact Factor of 1,277
(Rank 56 out of 79 in the category „Obstetrics and Gynecology“)