New editorial office

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We are pleased to announce that the editorial baton has been passed to my colleagues and me from the editorial office led by Dr. Kazusato Ohshima (Saga University). As of January 1, 2014, we will assume responsibility for the editorial work for the *Journal of General Plant Pathology*.

The editorial system and publication format of the *Journal of General Plant Pathology* have undergone various changes over the last 7 years. The *Journal of General Plant Pathology* launched an online submission and tracking system (<https://www.editorialmanager.com/jgpp/>) in April 2007, substantially reducing editorial processing and review time and overall time until publication. I am pleased with this progress and to announce to Society members that the impact factor of the *Journal of General Plant Pathology* in the 2013 fiscal year is now 0.893. These advances have resulted from the work of earlier editors and their colleagues, most of whom are members of the Phytopathological Society of Japan (PSJ).

The *Journal of General Plant Pathology* covers all areas of plant pathology: plant diseases and their control, including pathogen identification and characterization, disease physiology and biochemistry, molecular biology, morphology and ultrastructure, genetics, disease transmission, ecology and epidemiology, evolution, chemical and

biological control, disease assessment, and other topics relevant to plant pathological disorders. The journal is published every 2 months and welcomes the submission of manuscripts from all areas of plant pathology and related topics.

The PSJ was founded in 1916 and is esteemed as one of the oldest and leading academic societies in the field of agricultural science in Japan. And in 2015, the PSJ will celebrate its 100th anniversary. In July 2013, we began publishing invited, commemorative reviews in each issue to celebrate the history of the Society by showcasing important research of Japanese plant pathologists. These reviews will continue into 2014 and should contribute to future advancements in agriculture and plant pathology. As the PSJ continues to evolve an international scientific organization devoted to the study of plant diseases and their control, we, the members of the Editorial Board, during our 2-year tenure will work to ensure that the journal continues to advance the Society and our science.

We cordially invite you to submit your research papers to the *Journal of General Plant Pathology*.

Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of General Plant Pathology*
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