Air Quality, Atmosphere & Health: the 10-year anniversary

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We write as *Air Quality, Atmosphere & Health* finishes its 10th year, a period marked by steady growth and rising recognition. When the journal was established in 2008, the goal was to have a publication venue that reached broadly across the many areas of research related to the atmosphere and its intersections with human and environmental health. The name tells the story: *Air Quality* covers the scientific domains concerned with air pollution from man's activities and sometimes natural events; *Atmosphere* reaches broadly, embracing the range of research on drivers of the atmosphere, extending to greenhouse gas contamination and climate change; and *Health* covers the work of epidemiologists, toxicologists, and other researchers who are assessing the risks of man's impact on the air we breathe.

Over the 10 years since its founding, the journal's mission has proved timely as air pollution from man's activities has become an ever more pressing local, national, and global problem. In many high-income countries, such as the USA and several countries of Western Europe, air quality has continued to improve, but notable episodes of air pollution still occur and the results of contemporary epidemiological studies show adverse effects, even at today's levels. In some countries with emerging economies, such as China and India, quickly growing motor vehicle fleets and industrialization have led to extraordinarily high levels of air pollution that threaten public health and interfere with daily living. Unfortunately, greenhouse gas pollution has

not yet slowed and the earth continues to warm, bringing concerns for adverse consequences for human and ecosystem health. Research on these topics dominates the pages of *Air Quality, Atmosphere & Health*.

The journal has grown progressively in scope since 2008 as a growing number of researchers have addressed the topics related to its mission. Its papers come from diverse countries, reflecting the growing recognition of air pollution as one of the most critical public health threats and the resulting imperative for action. In 2017 alone, there were 106 papers but two come from co-authors in 48 countries. Papers have originated from all five continents including 42% of them from Europe, 29% Asia, 20% the Americas, and the remaining countries in Oceania and Africa. The international journal's papers are cited with increasing frequency, rising from the initial *impact factor* of 1.979 in 2012 to the current 3.184 (Fig. 1). Presently, the rate of acceptance of all submitted manuscripts is 31% and the quality of the papers continues to increase. We anticipate continued growth in the journal's size and impact (Fig. 2).

We look to our partners in the scientific community for your continued contributions and help with the never-ending

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Fig. 1 Impact factor of *Air Quality, Atmosphere & Health*

Fig. 2 The growth of *Air Quality, Atmosphere & Health*; number of issues, papers, and pages per year

task of peer review. We welcome submissions on the broad range of topics covered, particularly those that have findings relevant to our global readership. Looking to the future, we hope that the findings published in *Air Quality, Atmosphere &*

Health will have high impact and motivate evidence-informed actions to improve air quality and slow climate change. Towards that goal, send us the best papers so that we can make a difference.