2018—Changing Times for CRBM

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Published online: 7 February 2018

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For the times they are a-changin’—Bob Dylan

I don’t like change. Routines provide me with a feeling of security, because there are fewer unknowns/surprises. For a significant period of my life, I thought that I was a minority in my feelings about change, as many around me seemed to seek out and thrive on change. I’ve since learned change is hard for many of us.

A key variable in how change is perceived is how it comes to occur. Changing our morning coffee routine because a favorite coffee shop closes is different than deciding one morning to be adventurous and try a Frappuccino rather than a venti dark roast. Moving to a new institution because you didn’t get tenure is different than deciding a move represents an opportunity for growth/leadership. And change for the sake of change, which sometimes comes from leadership, is so often met with resistance and uneasiness in part because its rationale is often not explained.

Yet at its core, if all parties involved are on board, change can be good. It presents an opportunity to take a step back, examine the situation, and see how things can be improved. Understanding why change is happening, and having some contribution to the new/modified direction, seems to me to be key to a “successful” change.

So, it is here at Clinical Reviews of Bone and Mineral Metabolism (CRBM) that 2018 brings with it change. After 10 years of steadfast dedication, founding Editor-in-Chief Angelo Licata has stepped away from leading the journal that he built from the ground up. Since its inception CRBM has held a key niche in our field by publishing thematic issues, collections of review articles focused on one topic. CRBM has not been without change over the past decade, both small (the cover changes every so often) and large (abandoning hard copy publication, publishing some non-thematic issues), yet these all occurred under the same consistent leadership of Dr. Licata.

Stepping into the role of Editor-in-Chief, my goal is to minimize change at CRBM. We will stay true to our core mission—to publish high-quality, clinically relevant review articles. We will continue to publish thematic issues in addition to non-thematic collections of reviews. We will continue to have high standards of peer-review and publish papers our Editorial team feels that will propel the field forward. Although we will continue to have a large number of invited reviews, we will also aim to become a landing place for non-solicited review articles in the field of mineral metabolism.

Along the way of continuing the mission of the journal, we hope to make some “changes.” Our goal is to engage the next generation of researchers, to infuse new views/perspectives into the larger body of literature. We will strive to engage our global community by seeking out experts worldwide. We will focus on making our articles impactful through our emphasis on high-quality original figures and clear/concise “clinical” emphasis within each article. These aspirations are not so much changes as areas we plan to focus our attention on in the coming years.

To assist me in these endeavors, I have the pleasure of welcoming two esteemed clinician/scientists, Professor Jose Riancho and Dr. Yumie Rhee, as Deputy Editors. In addition, Dr. Licata, who will remain connected to the journal as Emeritus Editor-in-Chief, and the highly accomplished Editorial board (<http://www.springer.com/medicine/internal/>

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journal/12018/PS2?detailsPage=editorialBoard) will be instrumental in our mainlining the stability of the journal.

At its core, you (the contributor/reader) are the key to the continued success and viability of CRBM. This will never change. Our journal is built upon the foundational idea that clinicians/scientists like you give generously of your time and talent to conceive and produce high-quality articles aimed at educating your colleagues. We recognize this is challenging. You have an overflowing plate of responsibilities including scientific discovery, patient care, and teaching, not to mention

life outside of work. It seems that for many, having sufficient time for creative, big-picture thinking/writing, which is essential for review articles, has been greatly diminished. If you are open to your own “change” in 2018, consider finding such time in your schedule and reaching out to us at CRBM as a venue for publishing a review. We would welcome the opportunity to help you disseminate your work.

Matthew R. Allen, PhD.

Editor-in-Chief