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“The only thing constant in life is change”—François de la Rochefoucauld

And so, the Journal has a new editor. After resuscitating the Indian Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery and steering it to its current standing in the national and international arena over the past twelve years, Dr Sampathkumar decided that it was time for a ‘change’. The ‘Baton’ has been passed on to me! It is indeed an honour to be stepping into the shoes of a person who over the years has been a teacher, guide, friend and well-wisher.

In his final editorial Dr. Sampath has elegantly defined what the Journal stands for and what it should mean to each and every member of the Indian Association of Thoracic Cardiovascular Surgeons. As its official publication, the Journal is the visible face of the of Association. Dr. Sampathkumar’s tireless efforts have brought the Journal from obscurity to international recognition. It is now our responsibility to take it to even greater heights.

It is my humble request to all members of the Association, especially the younger generation, to take pride in their Journal and make every effort to send quality manuscripts. For senior members my plea is that you encourage and guide your junior colleagues to write and convert their thesis and other research activities into meaningful manu-

scripts. It is only by increasing the volume and quality of the manuscripts in our Journal, that we can hope to cross the next benchmark—getting indexed in the Index Medicus. As my predecessor has pointed out, an editor can only edit material that comes to him, he cannot generate it. So please pick up your pens, put on your thinking caps and give the journal the boost that it needs.

The field of cardio-vascular and thoracic surgery is witnessing major changes. Technology is rapidly changing the way cardiac care is delivered and with rapid strides in interventional cardiology, the equation between cardiologists and cardiac surgeons is ever changing. This milieu is fertile for surgical innovation, evaluation of newer therapeutic modalities and comparative studies. There should therefore be plenty of opportunities for the good research papers to be generated!

It will be hard to match the work done by Dr. Sampathkumar so far, but I hope that with all your support and good wishes, I will be able to build on this foundation and make the journal stronger, more informative, more appealing and more remunerative. I would like to thank the Indian Association of Cardiovascular–Thoracic Surgery for entrusting me with this responsibility and I assure that I will leave no stone unturned in my efforts to take the journal to a higher level.

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