

## Editorial

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*The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes.*

– Marcel Proust

I want to thank you all for what has been an exciting first year at the helm of *Aesthetic Plastic Surgery*. Since assuming the role of Editor-in-Chief, we have moved to a three-person, double-blinded review system. Elements of this review process are becoming the gold standard for our sister journals. This system has resulted in more diverse manuscript submissions, along with a quicker review time and shorter time to final decision, which benefits both the authors and readers alike. The number of reviewers participating has increased many-fold over the last year.

Submissions over the past year have been significant in number and diversity, from both a content and a geographic aspect. The quality of manuscripts we have been receiving has also been increasing rapidly as reflected by the important increase in advertising and in our impact factor to over 1.0. We have even seen an increase in citations in the lay press, with a recent article covered by CNN.

In addition, we have instituted a mandatory financial disclosure process which will be published both online and in print with each manuscript. This is in an effort to increase the transparency and integrity of our journal and

its published material. This effort will be continued through changes relating to evidence-based medicine, which can be read and reviewed in a separate announcement in this issue.

In the past year I have experienced the diversity of our journal, not only through the manuscripts I see, but in person as well. Recently, on behalf of the journal, I had the pleasure of traveling to Lebanon for the First Annual Congress of the Lebanese Society of Plastic, Reconstructive, and Aesthetic Surgery (Fig. 1). Here I met over 250 of our international colleagues, representing the Middle East, Europe, and the Americas. There were over 30 nationalities represented at the meeting! I want to personally thank my colleagues and hosts in Lebanon, including Dr. Bishara Atiyeh and Dr. Sami Saad. It was a distinct pleasure to participate in the meeting, meet new friends, and to explore the beautiful country of Lebanon.



**Fig. 1** Opening ceremony of First Annual Congress of the Lebanese Society of Plastic, Reconstructive, and Aesthetic Surgery in Beirut. From left to right: Dr. Ricardo Baroudi, Dr. Mutaz B. Habal, and Dr. Henry M. Spinelli

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The growth our journal in the last year has been remarkable, and it is, in no small part, thanks to the reviewers that we have been able to facilitate this expansion. Please join us in extending our sincere gratitude to these many talented reviewers, whose names are listed

here, without whom these improvements would not have been feasible.

Again, thank you for a memorable first year. It has been a pleasure working with you all and I look forward to meeting many of you in person in the future.

### List of Reviewers

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