New editorial office

Yuki Ichinose¹

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It is a great honor to take over as the Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of General Plant Pathology* (JGPP) from Professor Kazuya Akimitsu of Kagawa University as of January 1 2020. Our new editorial team would like to express our sincere gratitude to the former editorial team led by Dr. Kazuya Akimitsu for their tremendous efforts to develop the journal. In keeping with their activities, the new editorial board will take responsibility for maintaining the integrity and further improving the quality of the *Journal of General Plant Pathology* during the next two years.

The Phytopathological Society of Japan (PSJ) was founded in 1916, and the journal run by PSJ was first published in 1918. As the international importance of journals increased, research reports were channeled into an English-based international journal, the *Journal of General Plant Pathology*, and a Japanese-based journal, the *Japanese Journal of Phytopathology*, in 2000 from volume 66. The *Journal of General Plant Pathology* launched an online submission and tracking system in April 2007. This system resulted in a remarkable increase in the submission, publication, and downloading of articles, especially from foreign countries.

The *Journal of General Plant Pathology* covers all areas plant pathology: plant diseases and their control, including pathogen characterization, identification of pathogens, disease physiology and biochemistry, molecular biology,

morphology and ultrastructure, genetics, disease transmission, ecology and epidemiology, chemical and biological control, disease assessment, and other topics relevant to plant pathological disorders. The journal is published bimonthly and welcomes the submission of manuscripts from all areas of plant pathology and related topics. The current Impact Factor for the *Journal of General Plant Pathology* in the 2018 was 0.887, which is a slight fall. We believe that the *Journal of General Plant Pathology* publishes high quality papers. Therefore, we are ready to make further efforts to maintain and raise the Impact Factor.

From the beginning of 2020, the PSJ evolves into a general incorporated association. We will open up the development of phytopathological studies more globally to the whole world. We, the members of the Editorial Board for The *Journal of General Plant Pathology*, during our two-year tenure will work to ensure that the Journal continues to advance the Society and our science. We cordially invite you to submit your best research papers to the *Journal of General Plant Pathology*.

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✉ Yuki Ichinose
yuki@okayama-u.ac.jp

¹ Graduate School of Environmental and Life Science,
Okayama University, Okayama, Okayama 700-8530, Japan