EDITOR'S FORUM



The Journal turns over a new page in 2019

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With this last issue in 2018, the Journal completes its 53rd volume of continuous publication over a period that has spanned more than two decades in the service of its readers and scientific contributors. As Founding Editor-in-Chief, I take great satisfaction in the fulfillment of the Journal's stated mission and its focus. In the next year, the Journal takes another important step in keeping its compact with all of you, namely, providing superb and steady editorial leadership.

In 2019, Professor Andrea Natale will assume the helm of the Journal with an expanded and comprehensive leadership team. It gives me great personal pleasure that Andrea has taken on this mantle of responsibility to the field of cardiac electrophysiology. To this end, he has had a distinguished career in cardiac electrophysiology. His early medical training was in Italy, graduating medical school at the University of Florence and subsequent post graduate studies at the Catholic University of Rome. He burnished his credentials in some of the finest electrophysiology programs in the USA and



Andrea Natale MD

Canada. He successfully led three major electrophysiology programs in the USA before moving to his current location in Austin, Texas, where he serves as Executive Director, Texas Cardiac Arrhythmia Institute at the St. David's Hospital, and Professor of Medicine at the University of Texas at Austin. During his career, he has researched and reported on a broad array of subjects spanning experimental electrophysiology, clinical electrophysiology and electropharmacology, device therapy of arrhythmias, and ablative interventions. This breadth of experience will stand this journal with its wide spectrum of "interventional" subjects in good stead. An internationally recognized leader, this appointment affirms this Journal's profound and enduring commitment to global electrophysiologic practice. I have every expectation that he will lead this Journal in new directions, recruit an expanding global audience, and attain new and greater heights of performance. I am convinced, with the support of the enormously talented editorial board and team of editors, that I am placing the future of this Journal in the capable and steady hands of an outstanding management team. The tradition of scholarship and fairness in the pages of this Journal will continue without missing a step.

It remains for me only to express my gratitude to our readers, our scientific contributors, and the entire editorial team at the Journal and Springer Nature for placing your trust and rendering your support to me for almost a quarter of a century. This is a trust that I will always remember with great humility and profound appreciation.

Finally, to my Associate Editors over the years and my colleagues and friends who have constituted the Journal's Editorial Board, there are few words that can adequately describe the importance of your contributions over the years. Initially, this commitment was to a voyage in uncharted waters, and later, evolved to the independent course that has culminated in the Journal's success and, above all, its scientific integrity. Thank you all for joining me on this magnificent journey. It has been an honor and a great personal joy for me to share it with you.

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