

Confessions, the JNC family, and final farewell

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“Great is the art of beginning, but greater is the art of ending. Henry W. Longfellow, American Poet, and Educator, 1807-1882”

Of the awards I have received, “The Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award,” given by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation in Recognition of Exemplary Compassion, Competence and Respect in the Delivery of Care in 2005, is the closest to my heart and principles. I am a strong believer that all human beings are created equally. This same principle was my guiding rod through the 10 years as the Editor-in-Chief of the JNC. I care deeply about all our constituents (the editors, board members, managing editors, ASNC staff, authors, and

readers). During the start of my tenure, the label “JNC family” was soon adopted and accepted.

My second guiding principle has been that we do not compete with other journals but compete against ourselves to be the best we can be. I have applied this same principle in my professional career and it is the one I convey to our children and grandchildren. It has served me well.

My third principle is that before we became editors, we were (and still are) authors and reviewers. So, kindness, timeliness, and efficiency are especially important and the fact the English language is not the primary language of the authors should not be conceived as if they are second class citizens! We owe it to our authors to seek that the JNC not only be viewed as a publishing venue, but also as a means to learn and improve.

On June 30, 2023, we the editors, managing editors, and ASNC staff had a virtual meeting to discuss the transition. There was spontaneous pouring of raw emotions that brought tears to my eyes!

On the same day I wrote to our Board members, “Dear friends, tomorrow, the new team of editors under the leadership of Marcelo Di Carli will start managing the JNC. My team will handle the papers under revision till the end of 2023. On behalf of my team, I would like to thank you for your dedication, support, and friendship. It has been an honor and pleasure collaborating with you. Best wishes.” I was overwhelmed by their unsolicited responses. Their unedited and blinded responses are below. Each bullet is one response.

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to be the third Editor-in-chief. It has been an honor and privilege. The accomplishments would not have been possible without the support, sacrifices, dedication, kindness, generosity of time, and willingness to serve beyond the call of duty of the JNC family.

Soon, my title will be a bit longer, Editor-in-Chief Emeritus, like the titles of the two giants who preceded me, the late Barry Zaret and George Beller.

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This is my final farewell message (Addio, Adieu, Tschüss, Despedida, Gãobié, Sayōnara, Lehitra'ot, and Wadae).

I am, as you are, excited to welcome the new team under the leadership of my close friend Marcelo Di Carli. I know the JNC will move to newer highs and the JNC family will be alive and well.

- Dear Ami, it's been a pleasure and an honor to share our enduring collaboration over all these years; they say the greatness of a master is seen by his legacy, and the moving words that all of us, pupils of yours, are writing as a response to your retirement message really show that you left a deep footprint in the history of medicine. Best wishes for the next phase. Your friend.
- Dear Dr. Iskandrian, I feel fortunate to have had the privilege of working under your leadership and experience your mentorship during the brief time I served in JNC. I was able to observe your great dedication to the field and the journal firsthand. I wish you all the best in your new endeavors and look forward to meeting with you again in the future. With this, I also congratulate Dr DiCarli for taking on the leadership flag. Dear Dr. DiCarli, I am looking forward to working with you and learning from you. I am sure this will be another chapter of my life that I will be forever grateful for the mentorship and experience I will receive from you. Warm regards.
- Dear Prof. Iskandrian, it was a pleasure and a great opportunity to work with you and your team. Thank you very much. My best wishes to the next team. Best regards.
- Dear Ami and the entire team, I want to express my utmost appreciation for the incredible experience. It has been an absolute pleasure, and the level of success we have achieved is truly outstanding. Special thanks to Ami for demonstrating exceptional leadership qualities that have left a lasting impression on all of us. Your guidance has been invaluable, and I am grateful for the knowledge and inspiration they have imparted. I am truly grateful for your guidance and expertise. Lastly, I want to extend my best wishes to Marcelo and his team as they embark on the next chapter of the Journal. May the coming years be filled with continued success and fulfillment for all of the Journal and the field. Once again, thank you all for your tremendous contributions and for making this experience so remarkable.
- Dear Ami, working with you has been a unique and great human and professional experience. I would like to thank you on behalf of the entire Italian family of nuclear cardiology. Good luck to Marcelo with the new adventure.
- Dear Professor Iskandrian, Thank you for your service guiding JNC and all of us during your mandate. You are an inspiring person and professional, under your leadership each one of us had the opportunity to learn from you and become a little bit better. I wish Marcelo the best of luck filling your shoes and want to tell him that he can count on us to support him in developing JNC and continuing the path that you guided us all. Happy 4th of July to our US colleagues! Best Regards.
- Dear Dr. Iskandrian, I feel fortunate to have had the privilege of working under your leadership and experience your mentorship during the short time I served in JNC. I was able to observe your great dedication to the field and the journal firsthand. I wish you all the best in your new endeavors and look forward to meeting with you again in the future. With this, I also congratulate Dr DiCarli for taking on the leadership flag. Dear Dr. DiCarli, I am looking forward to working with you and learning from you. I am sure this will be another chapter of my life that I will be forever grateful for the mentorship and experience I will receive from you. Warm regards.
- Dear Ami et al. Greetings from Brazil. Thank you so much for all your dedication along so many years. Marcelo wishing you and your team the best. Warm regards.
- Dear Ami, working with you has been a unique and great human and professional experience. I would like to thank you on behalf of the entire Italian family of nuclear cardiology. Good luck to Marcelo with the new adventure.
- Dear Ami, I join the chorus of voices in expressing deep gratitude for your many years of service, dedication, mentorship, and remarkable achievements as the driving force behind the journal's remarkable growth. Your accomplishments have set a high bar for us to follow! As Marcelo said, your support and guidance will be invaluable as we navigate the next chapter of the journal. Congratulations once again on your remarkable tenure and tremendous legacy! Sincerely.
- Dear Ami, Thank you for your fantastic work as Editor of the JNC during these past 10 years. It was a great honor and pleasure to be part of this talented team! I wish a warm welcome to Marcelo as new Editor and look forward to working with his new team. Best regards.
- Dear Ami and all, it was an excellent and honorable experience for me to work with you. I deeply appreciate it. Ami showed us great leadership, which I will remember for a long time. Sincerely yours.

- Dear Ami, thank you for running JNC so well and your friendliness. I wish you all the best for the next future. Congratulations to Marcello & good luck with your new and important task. Best wishes.
- Dear Ami, dear team, it has been a wonderful experience, with an excellent success! Ami, you have done a superb job! and to Marcelo, all the success in the coming years, sincerely.
- Ami, Congratulations on your outstanding term as Editor of the Journal! Nuclear Cardiology has evolved dramatically over the last decade and the Journal has been a vital contributor to those changes. Thank you for your leadership and hard work.
- Deepest appreciation to Ami and former team, best wishes to brilliant new team!!
- AMI, you did an excellent job! Marcelo has BIG shoes to fill.
- Dear Dr. Iskandrian, on behalf of someone who still has a short journey with JNC, a huge thank you for all the teachings and the enormous kindness and education that your person has always transmitted. For the New team, a great commitment that, undoubtedly, cannot have a better leader. Best wishes.
- Dear Ami, thank you very much for allowing me to be part of your wonderful team.
- I increased my skills thanks to your mentoring, competence, and kindness. It was a great honor for me. Dear Marcelo, Good luck with your challenge. You inherit a wonderful journal, and I am sure that under your leadership it will brighten up more. Have a great future. Best wishes.
- Ami, thank you very much for the excellent work, effort, perseverance, and leadership. Also, my sincerest congratulations to this great team. Marcelo, congratulations and welcome to the journal. Best.
- Dear Ami, Thank you for your hard work and terrific leadership. I wish you the best!
- Good luck and a big welcome to Marcelo. Cheers.
- Dear Ami, Congratulations for all your contributions to the field and to us individually. You are unique and simply a “*mensch*” and no one will be able to duplicate what you have done over the past decades. I was simply honored to have had the opportunity to interact with you in our short journey through life, and I am grateful for your unconditional support and friendship over the years. Hope to see you again at the upcoming scientific meetings and to thank you in person. Kind regards.
- Dear Ami, I want to congratulate you on your fabulous tenure at the helm of the JNC. You led the journal with high academic standards, an eager curiosity and proper humility that moved the field forward in key new areas. You are a quintessential EIC. Marcelo, Congratulations on taking over as EIC. I cannot think of a more accomplished and better qualified person to build on Ami’s successes and take journal to new heights. It is in outstanding hands. Again, congratulations to you both and I look forward to the upcoming issues of the JNC. Best regards.
- Dear Ami, Congratulations to you and the team! Welcome to the new team with Marcelo’s leadership. Best wishes.
- Dear Ami, I want to thank you and the team sincerely for the excellent work done in promoting Nuclear Cardiology Science within the JNC and for the friendly and productive atmosphere that you created. My congratulations to Marcelo for taking on the Editor role and I am convinced that he will guide the evolution of our field towards new great achievements. My best wishes for the future to both of you.
- Dear Ami, Congratulations on the wonderful job you did all these years, making the journal of nuclear cardiology a very valuable source of knowledge for so many people. May I wish you and your family lots of happiness in the years ahead, and to begin with, a restful and cool summer. With All my good wishes.
- Dear Dr Iskandrian: Thank you for your great service to the journal and profession. Your impact will be long lasting both on the field and the people. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the personal support you supported me for over 25 years from the days I was still a fellow. You have been an inspiration at all levels. I wish you and your family all the health and prosperity. with sincere regards.
- Ami -We cannot thank you enough for your leadership and humanity. The Journal and Nuclear Cardiology has grown and advanced tremendously under your tutelage. We are all better for your commitment to the journal and the field. All the best for the next phase in your journey. Congrats and thanks to Marcelo for taking on the Editorship! The Journal and the field are in great hands and will reach new heights—looking forward to what the future will bring!
- Dear Ami, serving under you, starting from fellowship, all the way to JNC as a reviewer then on Editorial board has been the highlight of my academic career. I am Really proud and grateful for every moment we worked together, every valuable advice you gave me, and I will remain eternally in your debt. I hope to follow in your footsteps although you cast a big shadow that is very hard for anyone to match. I hope you enjoy your retirement and have fun and be happy; you have earned it! With outmost admiration Your student, mentee, and friend.
- Dear Ami, the journal and the field of nuclear cardiology have grown to great heights with your

leadership. Your ability, creativity, wisdom, and guidance have enhanced our field.

- I have personally learned so much from you. You are a treasure and luminary. Thank you for all you do. Sincerely.
- Dear Ami. Thank you so much for your tremendous work during your mandate which was exceptional. We will all remember your unique leadership. Of course, Marcelo will have big shoes to fill but we all wish him and his team very good luck and assure him or our entire support to continue the pathway you showed us. Best regards.
- Congratulations on a job very well done. It was my honor and privilege to witness your skills, kindness, knowledge, and generosity. With best wishes, sincerely.
- Dear Ami, it was an honor to work with you. Thank you for the inspiration of all these years. Marcelo, I wish you all the best. JNC is in excellent hands with you and the new team. Best.
- Dear Ami, it has been a great pleasure to work with you and your team at JNC. Marcelo, I wish you all the best! Looking forward to working with the new team. Best.
- Congratulations Dr. Iskandrian; you and your team have done a fabulous job with the Journal.
- Looking forward to working with Dr. Di Carli. Best Wishes.
- Congratulations once again Dr. Iskandrian. I hope your next endeavors are just as fulfilling or more!
- Ami, I do not wish to respond to the group, but wanted to express my gratitude for your amazing innovation for the Journal and your stewardship of the field. You have been and always will be my role model, as you have been to so many of our colleagues. THANK YOU.
- Dear Ami—Thank you wholeheartedly for your selfless leadership spanning decades. We are indebted to you for your contributions to nuclear cardiology and cardiovascular imaging. JNC has been an extremely valuable platform to the field, covering basic science, mechanistic studies, hardware and software developments, and clinical science. We also look forward to Marcelo's and his team's continued editorial excellence in JNC. Thank you!!! Kind Regards.
- Dear Ami, congratulations! You did a fantastic job with the journal. A great leadership in the field. Dear Marcelo, welcome to the journal, with your leadership you will do a great job. Regards to both of you.
- My apologies Dr. Iskandrian—I have some construction going on at my house and had to step away and took longer than I thought! You know how much I love working with you. You have done so much for the JNC but, on a personal level, I will miss your friendship and kindness. You are not done with us yet, so I am not saying goodbye!
- Dear Dr Iskandrian, we all thank you for your important work and kind support.
- Thank you very much, Ami. It was an absolute honor and a joy to work with you and your team all these years. Best wishes to Marcelo and his team in leading and advancing the Journal further.
- Dear Ami, many thanks for your exceptional efforts! It has led to tremendous growth of the journal and helped build a powerful community. Looking forward to working with Marcelo and the new team! Best.
- Dear Ami, thank you for all that you have done for our Journal and advancing Nuclear Cardiology.
- Congratulations to you and your team on your tremendous success. I appreciated your kind and thoughtful leadership. Warm welcome to Marcelo who will lead us to even greater heights.
- Ami, I think back to a hot Philadelphia room, addressing your fellows. What a long and illustrious road you have traveled since then. Full of inquisitiveness, excitement, and fulfillment. Thanks for the memories.
- Dear Ami, I am adding my congratulations to you and the team! And a big welcome to the new team with Marcelo's leadership. Best.
- Dear Ami, you took the Journal to a new level of excellence. It was an honor to work with you-as always.
- Dear Ami: Congratulations on an amazing job that has led to the tremendous growth of the journal. Over the last 10 years. I join all others in thanking you for so many years of service, leadership, mentorship, and contributions to the field of nuclear cardiology. Our team has huge shoes to fill! I look forward to your continued support and guidance as we begin our tenure with JNC. We are excited and ready to build on your legacy! All the best.
- Thanks, Ami and team for your leadership mentorship and friendship and for taking our JNC to new heights. All the best to you Ami. Congrats Marcelo and team and looking forward to further success of JNC.
- Thank you, Ami, for all your passion for Nuclear Cardiology and ASNC and for being your friend. You have moved the field forward and encouraged many to see the value of nuclear cardiology. You are the best!
- Dear Ami, Thank you for all your efforts and kindness. I will miss you. All the best. Kind regards.
- Ami, we are indebted to you for everything you have taught us- nuclear cardiology, cardiology, and life - lessons. I feel very privileged to know you and learn from you. Thanks for everything. Sincerely.

- Thanks so much for all you have done, Ami. What a legacy of impact!
- Ami, many thanks for your excellent work these days, and best wishes to Marcelo and colleagues.
- Good luck for JNC for the next generations. Best wishes from Japan.
- Hello Ami, Thanks for all your contributions to the Journal and advancing the field of nuclear cardiology!! Thanks for your support as well! Best regards.
- Ami, it was a pleasure and an honor to have worked with you. All the best.
- Ami and team thank you for all the amazing things you have done for the journal. Marcello and team congratulations. I know the journal is in outstanding hands.
- Dear Ami, your service to this community has been enormous. You have taught us countless ways (textbook, research papers, editor-in-chief, the list goes on). You have enabled us to serve our patients better. You have role modelled a successful clinician-scientist and mentored so many of us.
- Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Best.
- We are fortunate in nuclear cardiology to have two such talented and dedicated luminaries stewarding our flagship subspecialty journal. Ami, thanks for your amazing tenure, creativity, and leadership of the journal to new heights. Marcelo, we are all really looking forward to following how your brilliance and

editorial and mentoring expertise translates into yet further growth for the JNC. Best.

- Ami: congrats on an immensely successful term as EIC! I have been inspired by your leadership, vision, inclusiveness, and kindness to all. With appreciation and admiration.
- Ami, Congratulations on a fantastic tenure as editor. Marcelo has big shoes to fill.
- Ami, thank you for all you have done for JNC and the field of nuclear cardiology. Marcelo—thank you for taking on the reins. We are in good hands.
- Ami, Thanks for your tremendous leadership. Your passion for the field and your compassion for all make you an extremely hard act to follow. All the best.
- Dear Dr. Iskandrian, I cannot even begin to tell you how much I appreciate your kind and gracious spirit. I know we will still be in touch over the latter half of the year, working on papers, getting them off to be published. I did want you to know that you have made me feel nothing but welcome to the team since the first day we met on the conference call. Thank you. Sincerely.
- Dear Ami, many thanks for all your work during these years, and best wishes to Marcelo Di Carli! Best.
- Agree—Best wishes!

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