New Policies and Old Issues for *JASMS*

To readers, authors, reviewers, and advertisers: Thanks to your support; *JASMS* remains one of the best values in scientific publishing—our yearly institutional subscription rate is only \$450. To continue the Journal's growth, we plan to:

- Make available past issues of *JASMS* at no cost as of one year after publication to anyone world wide, ensuring the widest dissemination of the articles you publish with us. Thanks to our publisher and the ASMS for initiating this policy.
- Maintain strong reviewing, low cost, and wide dissemination to promote the growth of our impact factor, which for 2004 increased to 3.76, a new high for this journal.
- Continue our new cover that bears a figure from that issue or an interesting photograph (for the directory and conference-program issues). To maintain tradition, we retained some style features, including the color of our former cover.

To authors: For the first time, *JASMS* exceeded 2000 pages in 2005! To avoid expense to membership and to save space, we are asking authors to:

- Make introductions more concise: Do not begin articles by describing the "revolution in our subject promoted by electrospray and matrix-assisted laser desorption. . ." Similarly, an article describing a method development that has implications in diabetes does not require a long introduction to the disease.
- Restrict the number of citations: More concise introductions require fewer citations. Do not cite all articles that describe a development for all related analytes. Cite only break-through material and reviews for subjects with a long history. **To save space, we will decrease the font size for references.**
- Restrict the number of figures. We recommend six figures in articles and three in communications and application notes. Do not submit spectra that contain only a few peaks or that illustrate signal-to-noise ratios as these can often be described in a few sentences in the text. Do not submit straight-line plots; instead, report slopes, intercepts, and regression coefficients in the text. Magnify regions of interest rather than publishing a large figure. Try to keep figures to a size that is publishable in one column.
- Use supplementary material for archival information (e.g., large tables of data; figures and experimental details of interest only to the expert). Recall that

supplementary information is now readily available from *JASMS*'s online version.

To authors concerned with the US National Institutes of Health (NIH) voluntary posting ("Public Access") policy and with personal use of your article: Elsevier will facilitate author response to the NIH voluntary posting request ("Public Access Policy"; see <http://www.nih.gov/about/publicaccess/index.htm>) by posting the peer-reviewed manuscript directly to PubMed Central 12 months after formal publication. Upon notification from Elsevier of acceptance, you will be asked to confirm, by return e-mail to NIHauthorrequest@elsevier.com, that your work received NIH funding and that you wish to respond to the policy request. Include the NIH award number to facilitate processing. Upon confirmation, Elsevier will submit for posting by PubMed Central a version of your manuscript, which will include changes made after peer review, ensuring that you responded fully to the NIH request policy.

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- Prepare other derivative works, extend the article into book-length form, or re-use portions or excerpts in other works, with acknowledgement of its original publication in the Journal.

- Allow their employer, if the article is a 'work for hire' made within the scope of employment, to use all or part of the article for other intra-company use (e.g., training).

To reviewers: We thank reviewers for performing a crucial role in science publishing. With increasing submission pressure, it is increasingly difficult to find reviewers and to ensure prompt response. Please help by agreeing to review articles. To facilitate the review process, we are planning to:

- Continue the reviewer workshop initiated at the 2005 ASMS conference. The workshop was enthusiastically received by approximately 80 attendees, including both junior (the expected audience) and senior colleagues.
- Enhance the reviewer screens by adding additional search options for related articles.
- Continue to focus on getting personal classification codes for existing and new prospective. Having this information will ensure a better match between manuscript content and reviewers' expertise. If you are already registered as a reviewer and haven't entered your area(s) of expertise, please do so by logging on to Editorial Manager (<https://www.editorialmanager.com/jasms/>) as a reviewer and entering your personal classifications.

To the author of the November, 2005 editorial: Remember you can run, but you can't hide!

Michael L. Gross, *Editor-in-Chief*

Egbert M. van Wezenbeek, *Publisher*