



About Those Abstract Translations

In the early months of JOMI publication, interest was expressed in appending the translation of abstracts of the published articles in Spanish, French, and German languages. At the time, there were relatively few international subscribers, and the number of international members in the Academy of Osseointegration was relatively low. At its annual meeting in 1987, the JOMI Editorial Staff concluded that this service would enhance the journal's international appeal and provide an additional opportunity to disseminate implant-related scientific literature. The decision was made to introduce article abstract translations in the three aforementioned foreign languages effective with Volume 3, Number 1, in 1988.

Volume 11 of the *International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Implants* is published in 1996. The journal has grown from a periodical of some 240 pages in the first complete volume in 1987, to a work that contained 788 pages in Volume 10 published in 1995. Started as a quarterly publication, JOMI is now published bimonthly and includes from 12 to 14 papers per issue compared to some five to seven in the first issues. The journal has grown progressively in response to an increased circulation and volume of manuscripts submitted by authors interested in having the results of their scientific endeavors included in an international publication.

The price of a successful publication, unfortunately, has continued to escalate. However, during the past 10 years, the publisher, Quintessence, has made every effort to minimize cost and subscription rate increases without jeopardizing publication quality. As page number and space have become premium factors, page content has come under increased scrutiny, so as to utilize the available paging to the maximum scientific advantage.

Those authors/readers who have been involved with scientific papers or books know that the cost of translation services is not a trivial concern. The ever-growing costs of these specialized and individual services, compounded by other increasing production costs, have created the necessity to reassess the effectiveness of page usage. With a growing manuscript volume and the need to speed up accepted paper publication, the competition for page space has become keen. Thus, the obligation to rethink the policy of continuing scientific article abstract translation became acutely apparent to the JOMI Editorial Staff at its 1995 annual meeting. The unanimous decision to discontinue the translation service was reached and it has become effective with Volume 11.

In so doing, page space will be created for the publication of additional scientific information and not commercial advertising. It is envisioned that the net result will be an increase in page availability per issue, permitting the publication of an

additional one to two scientific manuscripts, which, during the course of a volume, could mean six to 12 more articles in print.

The JOMI Editorial Staff is cognizant of the fact that this decision may not be a popular one in all sectors of our reader population. However, in light of the critical need to address manuscript backlog, it is believed that the action was overdue. Lest it be thought that this decision was based on pressure from potential authors to expedite the publication of whatever material might be submitted, may we hasten to reiterate that the manuscript review and selection process will continue to be based on priority for publication of the highest quality works submitted for consideration.

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