

## The Curtain Falls—End Act I

Those of you who might be puzzled by the title of this editorial may recall the first editorial I wrote—10 volumes ago when this journal was first introduced. In that editorial I set out our goals. Over the past 10 years, we have kept those goals in mind, and have endeavored to bring to our readers substantive, meaningful articles that have been subjected to close reviewer scrutiny and validation. We stated that we sought to bring to the reader news, not history. To this end, it has been necessary to maintain a rejection rate in keeping with timely publication, avoiding a backlog of articles. We learned from our predecessors that a reserve of manuscripts is unwieldy and the pain of rejection is sometimes preferable to retention and belated publication. We have tried to adhere to accepted terminology and a common syntax. When the author was writing in a language that was not native, we have tried to discern the quality of the paper's content and overlook any awkward phrasing, making the revision into proper English and form a chore for the Editor-in-Chief. In short, we have attempted to raise the standards of prosthodontic publication to a higher plane and to concentrate on objectivity, clarity, and uniformity. We then wrapped this package in an elegant, dignified, and simple cover, and inside always separated advertising from scientific text. The reader should never have to make the distinction between commercial sponsorship and scientific reporting. Without a hint of modesty or regret, I can proudly say that in my estimation we have largely accomplished the goal that we set for ourselves.

I use the past tense purposely, because this is my final editorial message to you. Simply stated, I have been dismissed by my publisher.

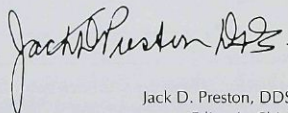
It has been my privilege to have had five corresponding editors, each recognized authorities in their area of expertise, working in close support of our efforts. These five brilliant men have worked tirelessly for the entire decade to ensure timely, unbiased, and totally blind review of all the papers. They themselves served as final reviewers, adding a wealth of talent and erudition to the processing of manuscripts. Every reader owes these men a debt of gratitude. Our abstracting and book review editors similarly have been outstanding, and their dedication equally apparent. All these individuals gave to their task infinitely more energy and skill than we could tangibly compensate. The reviewers have been superb, and I cannot adequately thank those dedicated men and women who have fulfilled this essential task, so basic to the success of a peer-reviewed journal. It has been because of the tight reviewing and editing that we received the recognition of being abstracted and indexed in the MEDLINE Index to the Dental Literature, Current Contents/Clinical Medicine, and Science Citation

Index. We are proud of that accomplishment. I would be remiss not to thank Mr William York Booth, who has been with me the entire duration of this effort. This talented, intelligent, and loyal friend has processed every manuscript, from scanning the authors' text into the computer, making all the revisions and overseeing all correspondence and filing, to the final forwarding for publication. He has kept the flow of manuscripts orderly and timely and accomplished all I have ever asked of him and more. His efforts have made my task greatly simpler. Similarly, the Chicago staff has been most cooperative in respecting our requests, and ensuring timely processing and publication.

Probably most of all, I have enjoyed the privilege of writing these editorials. It has been an exquisite opportunity to express my concerns and my thoughts concerning our specialty and our profession. I have particularly appreciated the kind comments I have received from many readers, and shall miss the opportunity to challenge and, perhaps, agitate readers with my perspectives.

The position of Editor-in-Chief will be assumed by Dr Gunnar Carlsson. He is eminently qualified to continue the tradition of excellence and enjoys the esteem of his colleagues from all around the world. I wish him every success. Dr Carlsson will assume this position beginning with the next issue—Volume 10, Number 4. To facilitate continuity, we will continue to process the manuscripts already submitted through my office, and all new manuscripts will go through the Chicago office.

Finally, my appreciation to all of you who have supported our efforts. I am unabashedly proud of what we have brought to you through the IJP, and I leave knowing that this Journal has set new standards and elevated the quality of prosthodontic reporting. It was important to me to let the reader know that my departure was not the result of a resignation. Yes, I was looking forward to beginning a second decade of publication, but it is not to be. As with much of life, as one door closes, a broader one opens, and so it is now. Every decade has brought new opportunities and new challenges, together with rewards I could not have envisioned. And so, as the curtain falls on the end of this first decade I leave the stage, proud, exhilarated, and eagerly contemplating the next, new role. Only Act I is completed. The cast of characters changes. Intrigues increase.



Jack D. Preston, DDS  
Editor-in-Chief