

Transitions in Prosthodontics

To serve as new Editor-in-Chief of *The International Journal of Prosthodontics*, starting with this first issue in 2019, is a great honor and thrill for me. As all of you are aware, my predecessor, George Zarb, has left very big shoes to fill. George Zarb's profound knowledge and experience in prosthodontics and his large international network have led to what the IJP is today—a highly acknowledged global scientific prosthodontic journal. I have been following every IJP issue since the beginning of my academic career, as this journal is and has always been one of the major scientific prosthodontic publications. I cannot express with words what it means to me to follow in George Zarb's footsteps now. With deep respect I gratefully thank you, George, for sharing your professional visions and experiences with me and for supporting me so kindly in the transition phase of taking over and continuing your legacy—an exceptional occasion for me to learn from the best! It will be one of our major aims in the future to maintain what you have created out of this journal.

So what is, and will remain, the scope of the IJP?

The prosthodontic literature covers a wide spectrum of basic, translational, and clinical research reflecting the global situation. Prosthodontic treatment possibilities differ all around the world, as they are influenced by factors like the local economic situation of the population, disease incidents and prevalence, access to health care services, education of providers, cultural and social attitudes, and respective government policies. As a result, rehabilitation care might not always be accessible or optimal for patients, and even the definition of "optimal" varies around the world. For example, dental implants are an established means of replacing missing teeth and have been shown to significantly improve quality of life. Yet, major challenges remain in their implementation, as affordability and accessibility still exclude large segments of the population in need of receiving implant care. Fostering innovative technology and sharing education might be the key to transform prosthodontics for the benefit of all patients. Furthermore, the increasing age expectancy of the population is raising new needs for prosthodontic treatments.

Finally, traditional prosthodontics is in transition today. New digital technology is replacing conventional procedures, increasing the efficiency and efficacy of treatments. Transitions like the new technology spreading around the world and the sharing of education may empower the developing world and thereby have a global importance for the well-being of the population. In addition, prosthodontic treatment is getting less and less invasive as the introduction of new materials and improvements in adhesion open up new horizons.

These major trends and global phenomena shall be reflected in the scientific literature and have been of major interest for the past editors of the IJP. The IJP has a long history as a global scientific journal, focusing on the science and clinical research from highly developed countries and the developing world. This global perspective on prosthodontics will remain an important, major scope of the IJP and will help in ***bridging the gap between science and clinical practice***.

You may ask yourself now: What is new with the IJP as of this first issue in 2019? Well, some changes to the look and structure of the journal have been applied, and the Editorial Board was recomposed. Three Associate Editors representing the different regions of the world were invited to collaborate with me on the global view on prosthodontics: Clark Stanford representing the Americas; Bjarni Pjetursson representing Europe; and Nikos Mattheos representing Asia.

A new partnership with the European Association of Osseointegration (EAO) was initiated in addition to the long-existing and fruitful collaboration with the International College of Prosthodontists (ICP) in order to reinforce the significance of implant dentistry for prosthodontics.

For the organization of the manuscripts, five sections have been introduced: (1) Clinical Research; (2) Fundamental Research; (3) Reviews; (4) Dental Technologies; and (5) Inspired/Clinical Concepts. Experts in these fields were invited to serve as Section Editors. Dental technologies have also become part of the journal.

Finally, a comprehensive Review Board was established, composed of former members of the IJP Editorial Board and members of partner organizations such as the ICP and the EAO, followed by various additional experts in the field.

We hope that with these little changes and the new team, George Zarb's legacy can successfully be continued and even further developed, and we thank all of our authors and readers for their confidence and support. We and the Quintessence team look forward to this adventure!

Best regards,



Irena Sailer, Editor in Chief

and

Clark Stanford, Associate Editor
Bjarni Pjetursson, Associate Editor
Nikos Mattheos, Associate Editor