

A New Decade for *The International Journal of Prosthodontics*

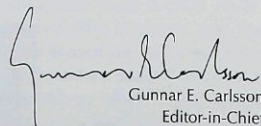
This issue begins volume 11 of *The International Journal of Prosthodontics*. When looking back over the previous volumes of the journal, it is obvious that most of the ambitious goals set up at the start of the publication have been realized. Numerous excellent and exciting articles related to the speciality have been published over the years. It is no exaggeration to say that the "expeditious and attractive presentation of manuscripts" has been the rule.

Two of the original goals should be commented on at the prospect of this new decade. The first goal, that 50% of each issue be composed of material that has been received within 5 months, was based on the philosophy that the journal should present news, not history. This goal has not been fully met, but at the 3- and 5-year reviews the average time between submission and publication was approximately 7 months. This has increased a little during the last few years, but the median publication time in the IJP has been short in comparison with many dental journals. The reasons for a sometimes longer publication process were discussed in great detail in the editorial "Why Does It Take So Long" (*Int J Prosthodont* 1992;4:305-306). In summary, the editorial stated that a combination of factors in the editorial process contribute to a delay in publication. These factors may include poor compliance to guidelines, the requirement of specialized or additional reviewers, and the necessity of revision of the manuscript by the author after comments and suggestions from reviewers and editor have been made. It is often the revision that consumes the greatest amount of time. These explanations coincide well with my editorial experience. The articles processed by the new editorial board and published in issue 6/97 and in this issue have averaged less than 6 months between reception at our Göteborg office and publication. The abstracts presented at the seventh meeting of The International College of Prosthodontists appear in this issue less than 3 months after the end of the meeting. Such speed in processing may not be a regular accomplishment in the future, but we will dare to attempt a slightly modified goal: that a substantial part of each issue be composed of material that has been received within 6 months. This should be valuable for both the authors and readers of the journal.

Another of the original goals proved to be modest and easily attained: "at least 25% of the articles in each issue should be derived from submissions outside North America." The early dominance of manuscripts from the USA has been balanced by an increasing amount of submissions from around the world. During the last few years about 35% to 40% of the submissions have come from North America. In volume 10 (1997) one third of the published articles originated from the USA and Canada, and the remaining were from 17 other countries in Africa, Asia, Australia, and Europe. The international character of the IJP is thus well established. This continues to be an important part of the journal's policy.

From the beginning, the IJP has been the official journal of the International College of Prosthodontists. At the recent seventh meeting of the ICP in Malta, this status of the journal was secured by a joint agreement between the board of the ICP and Mr H.-W. Haase of Quintessence Publishing, the publisher of the IJP. It was agreed that the abstracts of the biennial meetings be published in the IJP—and the abstracts of the Malta meeting are in this issue. Information for ICP members will appear regularly in the journal. As part of the agreement, Dr Harold Preiskel of the United Kingdom was appointed to be the ICP Editorial Representative to the journal. I look forward to having him on the editorial board. Dr Preiskel, who was the first president of the ICP, can certainly help promote the mutual interests of the journal and the ICP, expressed in the goals of the ICP bylaws: to encourage interest, study, research, and education in prosthodontics and to promote excellence in the practice of prosthodontics for the public good. In the agreement between the ICP and the IJP, it was stated that similar arrangements would be sought with national prosthodontic organizations with the aim to strengthen the international link between those who practice prosthodontics.

As always, the editorial board of the IJP welcomes your comments and requests new submissions to the journal.



Gunnar E. Carlsson
Editor-in-Chief

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