New Initiatives at *Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery*

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Journal Leadership

It has been 1 year since I was appointed as the fourth Editor-in-Chief of *Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery*, following Dr. David Roberts' outstanding 18-year term at the helm. I am grateful to have the tremendous support of returning members of our Editorial Board. We have built on this stellar core of expertise by adding 14 exceptional new members to the Editorial Board, from Argentina, Australia, Canada, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, South Africa, Sweden, and the USA (<https://www.karger.com/Journal/EditorialBoard/224132>). I would like to thank each of these individuals for contributing their time and expertise and for their help in shaping the path ahead.

Historical Publication Analysis

An initial undertaking was to survey the works published and impact of the articles published in the journal since its inception [1]. This analysis provided a look into the technological and scientific developments that have been and are currently driving our field. We identified 10 seminal publications that received the most citations, as well as the top 10 contributing authors, countries of origin, and institutions of origin of publications. Knowing where we have been informs where we are headed.

New Initiatives

We strive to drive the impact and relevance of our journal in the functional neurosurgery community and beyond. We have initiated a number of new initiatives with this in mind.

New Associate Editors

The timeliness of manuscript turnaround is important. With this in mind, we have set the goal of decreasing the interval between manuscript submission and first decision. This will be accomplished by committing to getting a first decision within 30 days of manuscript submission and implementing rapid editorial screening and returning manuscripts within 10 days if they are deemed unlikely to be published. To assist in these objectives, I am pleased to welcome Drs. Francisco Ponce (Barrow Brain and Spine, Phoenix, AZ, USA) and Nir Lipsman (Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, Toronto, ON, Canada) as Associate Editors.

New Invited Reviews Section: Reviews in Functional Neurosurgery

Review articles play a role of appraising and consolidating topics of interest in our field. We have initiated a new section of our journal for both invited and author-initiated reviews. These "Reviews in Functional Neuro-

surgery” will cover experimental work, new techniques, and clinical studies. The commissioning and peer-review process will be overseen by our 5 new Associate Editors of Reviews, Drs. Eric Fonoff (Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade de São Paulo, Sao Paulo, Brazil), Jorge Gonzales-Martinez (University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA, USA), Clement Hamani (Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, Toronto, ON, Canada), Yasin Temel (Maastricht University Medical Centre, Maastricht, The Netherlands), and Hiroki Toda (Tazuke Kokufukai Medical Research Institute and Kitano Hospital, Osaka, Japan). We anticipate the first review article will be published by the end of 2021. Our 7 new Associate Editors have been selected on the basis of both their domain expertise and their geographical diversity.

New Case Report Format: Images in Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery

While we will continue to publish exceptional case reports, we will shift to a new shorter and visually captivating format. This new case report format called “Images in Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery” will have 1 figure and up to 600 words and 5 references. This format allows for express communication of particularly novel image-based findings, and we have received a number of submissions via this publication route.

Editor of Social Media and Outreach

We recognize the importance of the relevance and impact of our work both within and outside the functional neurosurgery community. With this in mind, we are thrilled that Dr. Michael Staudt (Rochester, USA) accepted our invitation to serve as Editor of Social Media and Outreach. The initiative seeks to raise the profile of our journal and to promote research articles via Twitter, Facebook, altmetrics, and other communication efforts, in collaboration with already established social media presences at Karger. Additional outreach efforts to the functional neurosurgery fellows community are currently underway.

Giants in Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery

This exciting new project seeks to identify the “Giants” in our discipline. “Giants” are defined as “A neurosurgeon or scientist who has pioneered or contributed a ma-

ior innovation, discovery, or method that has benefited and influenced the field of functional neurosurgery.” A “Giant” could have also played a significant educational role to develop the field of stereotactic and functional neurosurgery.

We are in process of soliciting “Giants” nominees from each of the 9 neurosurgical societies represented by our journal (WSSFN, ASSFN, ESSFN, ISSFN, JSSFN, MSSFN, SLANFE, KSSFN, and RAFN). The final selection of “Giants” will involve a voting mechanism by our journal’s Editorial Board. I am grateful for the invaluable support of the following individuals, who have agreed to oversee the “Giants” project: Drs. Sameer Sheth (North and South America), Marwan Hariz (Europe), Patric Blomstedt (Europe), Takaomi Taira (Japan/Asia), and Hiroki Toda (Japan/Asia).

Finally, I would like to extend special thanks to highly talented and dedicated Karger office in Basel, in particular Dr. Teresa Mathews (Publication Manager), Ms. Shelly Shochat (Editorial Office), and Ms. Angela Weber (Production Editor). Their assistance during the transition and over the past year has been invaluable, and I look forward to continued collaboration between our Toronto and Basel offices on new initiatives for the journal in the years to come. I am particularly interested in hearing from all of you and your ideas how to make our journal even better.

Conflict of Interest Statement

A.M.L. is a consultant to Boston Scientific, Abbott, Medtronic, and Insightec and a Scientific Director at Functional Neuromodulation.

Funding Sources

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Reference

- 1 Lozano AM. The evolution of our journal stereotactic and functional neurosurgery: from 1938 until now and beyond. *Stereotact Funct Neurosurg*. 2020 Jul 29;98:292–9.