



Editorial

Editorial — January 2019

It is an honour and a privilege to assume the role of Editor-in-Chief of the British Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. I will be following in the large footsteps of my long-standing mentor and friend, David Mitchell. David's involvement with BJOMS spans three decades, with the last five years as editor. Under his leadership the editorial team became more inclusive and took a more international approach, publishing manuscripts from across the globe. The team currently includes colleagues from Europe, Asia, and Australasia.

The mission of BJOMS is to serve as the premier international forum for the publication of original research, guidelines, and perspectives concerning clinical problems, surgical education, and socioeconomic aspects of oral and maxillofacial care. The immediate future presents the journal with a number of opportunities, and a few challenges.

As the official publication of the BAOMS, the journal will now include a regular members' page, where announcements by members and fellows can be published.

The peer review process is the current benchmark for the evaluation of manuscripts. However, a drawback of this process is that novel approaches and potentially excellent papers that present a new technique can be excluded from publication in what remains a fairly conservative setting. With this in mind, inclusion of a new "My Opinions" section will aim to capture possibly controversial but good-quality manuscripts that provoke interest and have the potential for debate.

The publication of high-quality research remains a high priority. In canvassing manuscripts from academic colleagues, the first question potential authors ask about the journal is: "What's its impact factor?" Indeed, this is often the only thing they ask. The editorial team will focus on raising the acceptance bar for publications, and work with authors to improve the presentation of the content of their manuscripts.

The council of the BAOMS has appointed Anastasios Kanatas and Panayiotis Kyzasto as deputy editors. The selection process was difficult because of the quality of the applicants. The rest of the editorial board will remain unchanged and I am excited about working with, and having the support of, talented and experienced associate editors and editorial team. All papers will of course still be subject to technical editing to make sure that the quality of the presentation of the journal is maintained.

The editorial team will endeavour to make BJOMS the "go-to" destination for authors who are seeking an international audience for their publications.

Kaveh Shakib

Consultant Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon, London

E-mail address: k.shakib@shakib.org