BIOMEDICAL PAPERS:
PRESENT STATE AND OUR ASPIRATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2010

Dear Authors, Readers, Reviewers and Editorial Board members,

Biomedical Papers has undergone a series of transformations since its inception. This last year, thanks to all your efforts has been successful. Volume 152 (2008) was published in 2 issues and the manuscripts were submitted and processed in the traditional way. Palacky University Press, the journal publisher, then procured an electronic submission system, modified by Ivo Andrle, the system compiler in collaboration with the Editorial Board to meet the increased journal demands. This software solution was very important in order to enhance the quality of the journal in terms of the editorial work and speed of the review system. It has also permitted a new classification system with the aim of improving the match between manuscript and reviewer. The journal is now published as 4 issues a year. In 2009, the Editorial Board received 65 manuscripts; after peer review, 54 were accepted and 11 refused. We saw a good 39:11 ratio between original research papers and traditional reviews. The journal was open to accept reviews and/or minireviews, particularly by PhD students. This profile could be more efficiently used by PhD training departments in different biomedical specialties. According to the statistical data, there has been in increasing interest in Biomedical Papers articles, measured by the number of Pub Med hits and SCI cites. Of 41 Czech scholarly medical journals Biomedical Papers ranks highly (visit web site: http://www.scimagojr.com/journalrank.php). The journal is indexed in most of the important databases. The archives are freely available online at http://biomed.papers.upol.cz and since 1998, articles have been searchable including full texts from Pub Med and Web of Science. The journal has just entered the second year of screening for impact factor.

What are the prospects for the year 2010? A key aspect is the high professional quality of forthcoming research and/or review articles. We have succeeded in creating a pool of local and foreign peer-reviewers. The review process is built upon a system of volunteers, and we believe that this work should be highly appreciated when judging the curricula of scientists. In an ideal world, a manuscript would find its way to the most suited reviewer. The existing free access to articles will be extended in terms of offering automatic alerting services starting with Volume 154.

The Editorial Board would greatly appreciate the author’s initiative in sending their manuscripts electronically to potential readers. Also, the authors should cite the articles published in Biomedical Papers in their manuscripts submitted to other scholarly journals. As far as hard copies are concerned, these will be issued in the quantity to meet the demands of printed document library interchange.

In conclusion, we would like to express our thanks to all authors who submitted their manuscripts; peer-reviewers for their critical skills, Editorial Board members for all their efforts, assistance, support and new ideas for improving Biomedical Papers, the publisher Palacky University Press for technical processing and Palacky University Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry for financial support. Further, we would like to mention the contributions of Pavla Henklova for admirable editorial work, Bohdana Rehakova for website administration, Martin Volmut for communication with worldwide database centers, Alexander Oulton for English proofreading and Petr Jancik for technical editing.

Best wishes for the coming New Year 2010.

Jitka Ulrichova, Jarmila Potomkova
and Vilim Simanek
Editors