



Editorial

Journal summary from Editor in Chief

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Dear Editorial Board Members,

It is my pleasure to share with you the end of year publication report for AIMS Molecular Science, which details our collective progress and growth in quantity and quality of manuscripts. It is only through the dedication and contribution of time and effort from the members of the editorial board that we continue to make significant strides toward becoming a high impact destination journal for research dissemination. Beginning in 2014 with 11 publications, we have achieved a new record of 39 publications out of 55 submissions. The 20% rejection rate is an indication that peer-review is providing rigor and scrutiny of manuscript content, and quality is a priority. In addition to publishing more manuscripts, the paper review period was reduced by 27% from 103 days in 2015 to 75 days in 2016. A healthy distribution of 33% research articles to 59% reviews was achieved through a combination of special issues, independent submissions, and editorial board contribution. In the past year our articles have been read and downloaded 63,430 times. Please review the work that has been published via our web site at <http://www.aimspress.com/journal/Molecular>.

Additional highlights of 2016 include registration of the journal in the Emerging Sources Citation Index accessible by Web of Science. This is a significant step to accelerate access and dissemination of journal content to a broad audience. The result of indexing is greater access to manuscripts, improved citation numbers, and ultimately higher impact ratings for the journal. Our editorial board is diverse, drawing on professionals from over ten countries with divergent specializations across most scientific disciplines. Given this diversity of membership, 2017 offers the opportunity for us to strive for publications from each board members home country.

Among the lessons learned in 2016 were the success of special issues. Special issues were assembled with more than five contributing papers in each of three topical sections, *Cells Signalling and Signal Transduction*, *Oxidative Stress and Ageing*, and *Lectins*. Given last year's call for each member of the editorial board to be responsible for a publication, we received 55 submissions, 39

publications, and 12 papers currently being processed. With respect to this publication challenge, the members of the editorial board were successful and should be commended for their effort. I thank you for your contribution to the journal.

Our goals for 2017 are to maintain the growth of the journal by increasing publications to 60 (5 per month), increasing citations through publication of special issues and review articles, and reducing publication time from 75 days to 65 days.

In closing, I thank you for the work you do to ensure the success of AIMS Molecular Science.



Owen M. McDougal, Ph.D
Editor in Chief, AIMS Molecular Science



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