

## Entering a New Decade

The American Society of Neuroradiology (ASNR) has changed in many ways since I became a senior member almost 20 years ago. It is plain to see that membership and the size and scope of annual meetings have increased, central office management has become more refined, and membership in the Society is a prized credential. Probably the most significant development was the founding in 1980 of the ASNR's official publication, the *American Journal of Neuro-radiology*, which further enhanced the national and international reputation of the Society.

This issue of *AJNR* marks the start of my tenure as editor, although its contents and those of the next few issues are the work of the previous editorial staff. I feel fortunate to assume the reins of a thriving enterprise. As *AJNR* enters its second decade, it is among the most widely cited journals in the field of radiology. Its maize and blue cover is well known to radiologists, neurologists, and neurosurgeons as the symbol of the leading forum for the latest information on the technique, anatomy, and physiology of neuroimaging.

The history of *AJNR* is not without its heroes. The original idea was nurtured by Sam Wolpert and, over much opposition, he convinced the Society that a journal was needed and that it would be successful. Irvin Kricheff served as first chairman of the ASNR publications committee and negotiated the initial agreement with Ray Gagliardi of the publications committee of the American Roentgen Ray Society (ARRS). The Journal came to life in 1980 with Juan Taveras as its editor. In its infancy, the ownership of *AJNR* was shared with the ARRS. In 1986, Tom Bergeron and Jim Scatliff negotiated ASNR's purchase of the Journal from the ARRS, and the close relationship between the two organizations has continued. The publications committee currently is chaired by Dave Davis and has raised worldwide circulation beyond the 5000 mark.

Those who have submitted articles to *AJNR* are aware of the excellent quality of its associate editors, who have labored tirelessly to produce a readable and thoroughly refereed journal. Paul New has served with distinction as associate editor since the inception of the Journal. Sam Wolpert initially loaned his expertise as associate editor. When he left, he was replaced by Bob Quencer, who has agreed to continue as deputy editor, providing the benefit of his experience.

Barbara Kern, manager of the editorial office, maintained the Boston office and over the years has become a familiar figure at ASNR annual meetings and a pleasant, friendly voice on the phone. She has built an excellent organization, which has facilitated the editorial transition. Barbara Rose, the manuscript editor in San Diego, is a true professional, and her expertise makes the Journal readable and pleasing to the eye. Mel Figley, former editor of the *American Journal of Roentgenology*, and his successor, Bob Berk, have taken a personal interest in *AJNR*, and its success has been their reward also.

However, if there is one giant on whose shoulders I stand as I write this, it must be Juan Taveras. In order to gain broad acceptance, the Journal needed as its first editor a neuroradiologist of great stature and fairness who had a limitless capacity for work. Juan took to the task with relish and optimism. The status of *AJNR* today is a testament to his efforts. His name will appear on the Journal's masthead as "Founding Editor," and I expect him to continue his contributions to its success for many years to come.

I have spent a significant part of 1989 preparing for the transition of editorial duties and have received the help of many to whom I am grateful. I have carefully chosen the deputy editors, Bob Quencer, Nick Bryan, and Ken Maravilla; the editorial advisory board; editorial consultants; and the editorial office manager, Mary Giardina. With them I pledge to maintain the high standards of scientific content, originality, accuracy, timeliness, and fairness that have marked the tenure of my predecessor.

A change in editorship is an opportunity to alter the style, format, and content of a publication. However, I always have believed that it is easier to get into something than to get out of it, and that can pertain to a sports car, a bad habit, a contract, an argument, and even an editorial policy. With that in mind, as I begin my term, changes I intend to institute will be made with caution and a regard for the traditions and past success of the Journal.

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Editor