

Editor's Perspective

When the journal *Circulation: Heart Failure* published its inaugural issue in 2008, heart failure was a rapidly growing specialty with pent-up need for high-quality sites in which to publish specialty-specific science. Bringing the rigor and scientific standards of the American Heart Association and the parent journal *Circulation* to the heart failure field, *Circulation: Heart Failure* attained immediate success and stature in the field of cardiovascular publishing. The rapid growth in heart failure scientific publishing since that time attests to the emergent need.

Nearly 10 years later, it is a tremendous privilege for me to inherit the Editor role at *Circulation: Heart Failure* from James Udelson, MD. Dr Udelson stewarded the journal during its inaugural decade, providing superb leadership, clear direction, and consistent focus on the very best heart failure science during those critical early years. He leaves *Circulation: Heart Failure* in an enviable position, with a manuscript submission acceptance rate below 15% despite decreasing publication intervals throughout its tenure, and a journal impact factor of 6.83.

Those who feel the journal currently meets their needs, keeping them up to date with the best and highest quality scientific advances in the field, will hopefully find much to like in the transition. However, with any transition, there is opportunity for change. Some planned changes are outlined below, but over the next year, as the new team completes its leadership transition, there will be more changes, and additional Editor's Perspectives to highlight these as they come about.

During this transitional period, we will recognize growth and change in the field of heart failure by maintaining the journal's focus on mechanistic and clinically relevant science, while exploring content in areas we feel are of growing importance. In coming months, you will see Spotlight features in the journal, with collections of articles focused on a content area of interest. Look for our first Spotlight in the September issue.

My team of editors knows the role of subspecialty literature is, in part, to serve as a platform for the most exciting, and often young, science in a discipline. Therefore, emerging science, and emerging heart failure investigators, should find in *Circulation: Heart Failure* an intellectual home. With this in mind, our Associate Editors include emerging scientists in the heart failure field, and as a group, we will actively foster a journal community focused on energizing our newest colleagues. A reinvigorated aspect of the journal will be the Emerging Investigator feature, in which we highlight science led by a physician or scientist <10 years from completion of training. The Emerging Investigator feature will figure prominently in our on-line strategy as well, as we work to grow a global community of young investigators.

As an entirely online journal, a presence in the digital world is required. Our content must be readily accessible and in technological formats that keep pace with its savvy readership. Led by John Ryan, MD, from the University of Utah, we will

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The opinions expressed in this article are not necessarily those of the American Heart Association.

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grow our presence on Twitter, featuring articles, images, figures, and hosting Twitter journal clubs. Dr Ryan is also the Innovations Editor at *Circulation: Cardiovascular Quality and Outcomes*, and our journals will work together under his leadership to innovate in the digital space. Over the coming months, we will be engaging our authors, reviewers, and readers to develop online communities of investigators and foster virtual collaborations that span geography, career stage, and specialty areas. There are so many opportunities in the burgeoning digital media field. The editors are working with the American Heart Association to ensure that our digital platform will support new initiatives and adventures in the online space.

The new team of editors has been critical in guiding me and refining this vision. Larry Allen, MD, has served for the past 6 months as transitional Deputy Editor of *Circulation: Heart Failure*, working closely with me as we began handling submissions in April, partnering in decisions about content and direction. Larry has been an exemplary colleague in the early and most uncertain stages of this effort, offering wisdom and sensible advice. Because of increasing obligations at his home institution, the University of Colorado, Dr Allen will step back into an associate editor position, and as of July 1, James Fang, MD, Chief of Cardiology at the University of Utah, will assume the role of Deputy Editor. Navigating this transition depended on many others, most

notably Robert Carey, MD, Heather Goodell, Karen Barry, and especially Christine Beaty. This team, along with our dedicated and visionary Associate Editors, forms the core of a new Western States-centric leadership team at *Circulation: Heart Failure*. We again thank Dr Udelson for handing off a journal of excellence. We also thank Joe Hill, James De Lemos, and the team at *Circulation* who provided guidance and are permitting us to share many of the new innovations they have implemented. The new team of editors at *Circulation: Heart Failure* looks forward with excitement to helping shepherd the scientific future of our field of heart failure, mechanical circulatory support and cardiac transplantation.

DISCLOSURES

None.

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FOOTNOTE

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