

## EDITORS' NOTE

We are pleased and honored to present the 2007 edition of *The Iowa Orthopaedic Journal (IOJ)*. In keeping with the tradition of the IOJ, this issue contains publications of scientific articles, reviews, case reports, and essays of both historical and philosophic interest. We hope those who read this edition will come away with increased knowledge and enthusiasm for the field of Orthopaedics.

This 2007 edition marks the beginning of an evolution for the *IOJ*. For the first time, the *IOJ* is being made available in an electronic format. It will also be the first time that the articles contained herewithin will be available for global perusal via full-text links through Pubmed. It is our hope that the time and dedication our authors have put in their manuscripts may thus be appreciated by a worldwide readership.

In keeping with the theme of globalization, this edition of the *IOJ* expands upon its submitter base as well. As always, we are pleased to have a significant contribution from the faculty, alumni, and residents of our own Orthopaedic Department. However, we also have many contributions this year from other quality institutions and clinicians from both across the country and around the world. This broad range of submissions greatly enriches the *IOJ* and to our many submitters worldwide, we wish to express our endless gratitude.

We would also like to recognize the departing senior residents. Drs. Amirtharajah, Altenburg, DeWall, Jones and Ward are exemplary clinicians, dedicated academics, role models for excellence, and most importantly, great friends. They will be missed dearly but their inspiration to us will remain.

This edition is dedicated to Don Shurr. He is not only an exceptionally gifted orthotist, but also a great teacher and friend. We are forever indebted to his vast knowledge of prosthetic and orthotic care in Orthopaedics and his infinite patience for putting up with our own lack of finesse in said field. It has been a privilege to work with and learn from him, and our department is undoubtedly strengthened through his contributions.

The *IOJ* would not be possible without the dedicated support of Diana Johannes, who has worked tirelessly on the monumental task of coordinating manuscripts, corporate advertisements, and department photos, as well as craftily keeping us focused on our task (which is easily her most impressive accomplishment). Our predecessors can undoubtedly empathize with our gratitude for her efforts.

A journal of this size and quality could not be possible without the tremendous financial contributions of our



corporate sponsors. We thank them for their generosity and continued support, both in the care of patients and educational forums.

Finally, we would like to thank Dr. Jose Morcuende and Dr. Joseph Buckwalter for their continued support and leadership as faculty advisors for the *IOJ* as well as all of the previous editors, who have set the high standard to which we aspire.

We hope you find this edition of the *IOJ* as enjoyable to read as it was to edit. Congratulations and thanks to all who have had a part in making *The Iowa Orthopaedic Journal* a lasting icon.

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