

EDITORS' NOTE

We are pleased and honored to present the 2009 edition of *The Iowa Orthopaedic Journal (IOJ)*. This edition represents not only our work but also the contributions of several members of the University of Iowa faculty, support staff, and residents. We were inspired by the accomplishments of previous editors, especially those who worked on editions of the *IOJ* that have been published during our residency. In addition, several articles from previous *IOJ* editions have become staples of the Iowa Orthopaedic Residency and have set a high standard for our efforts in editing this year's *IOJ*.

The impact of the *IOJ* continues to increase with the availability of articles in an electronic format for free via PubMed. The number of retrieved *Iowa Orthopaedic Journal* articles is now more than 30,000 per month, with more than 1000 articles downloaded on average per day. We are excited about the exposure this is bringing to our department's journal, and we anticipate that the increasing readership will result in continued growth for the *IOJ*.

In this edition, as in years past, many of the articles have been written by our own faculty and residents. In addition, we have been fortunate to receive submissions from our respective medical school alma maters: Johns Hopkins University and The University of Miami. Submissions have also come from more remote locations, including two articles from The United Kingdom. This broad range of submissions has greatly enhanced the quality of this year's *IOJ*.

As is tradition, we would like to recognize the departing senior residents: Drs. Flint, Lyon, Mosqueda, Riley, Scordino, and Van Hofwegen. Through their intelligence and natural abilities they have given their fellow residents something to shoot for. Their patience and willingness to facilitate learning-by-doing while working with their junior residents has benefited us all. We sincerely thank them and wish them the best as they continue on to fellowship and the start of what will surely be remarkable careers.

Having just mentioned remarkable careers, it seems appropriate to introduce Dr. George El-Khoury, to whom this year's *Iowa Orthopaedic Journal* is dedicated. The effects of his work in the field of Musculoskeletal Radiology are tremendous and difficult to quantify, although a look through his 76 page CV gives you some idea. But his impact on the University of Iowa Orthopaedic Surgery residency can be attested to by every resident that has been fortunate enough to come through this program. His dedication to education and quality patient care have inspired us, starting with our one month rotations as interns, continuing through residency, and peaking during our time on the Musculoskeletal Oncology service as senior residents. He is a resource that we all rely on heavily, and when he is away, he is sorely missed. It has been our great privilege to learn from him.

The *Iowa Orthopaedic Journal* would not be possible without the help of Diana Johannes. Her hard work has been the motor driving the creation of this year's *IOJ*. She has spent countless hours organizing articles for review and publication. She has kept us on track in our efforts to produce the highest quality publication possible. She has



been a master proofreader, graphic artist, and organizer of all things, while at the same time continuing to serve admirably as Dr. Albright's administrative assistant. We sincerely thank her for her role in bringing this year's *IOJ* to fruition.

We would also like to thank our corporate sponsors who, in the midst of ongoing scrutiny of the role of industry in orthopaedics, have continued to provide integral educational support with integrity.

Finally, we would like to thank our faculty advisers, Drs. Joseph Buckwalter and Jose Morcuende. Their guidance and experience have made this edition possible. We are indebted to them for their input and leadership.

We hope that this year's edition of the *Iowa Orthopaedic Journal* lives up to the high standard set by our predecessors. As previous editors' notes have pointed out so well, the primary purpose of this journal is education, and we confirm that those who are privileged to participate in its production undoubtedly benefit the most.

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