

Editorial

One Year and Counting: A Status Report from John and Dave

Two thousand and three has been a very good year for *CEBP*. Our journal now has an impact factor of 5.140. Also, it is now the 2nd of 90 public health journals (1st among research journals) and 14th of 114 oncology journals. These achievements, of course, are highly related to the rapid expansion of the field of cancer epidemiology and cancer prevention and control research and the proportional increased interest in publishing cutting-edge manuscripts in *CEBP*. During the past year, manuscript submissions have increased by 29%. Because of the outstanding work of our 16 new Senior Editors and our tireless, responsive, and largely uncomplaining reviewers, and because of the conversion to electronic manuscript submission and review, the average review duration has been reduced by 19% to 57 days (the average for electronically submitted manuscripts is now 47 days).

Obviously, we can do even better! Our plans for 2004 include the addition of a featured editorial section from our Senior Editors (in reverse alphabetical order so that, according to John, Dave goes last), and a "rapid read" summary of the leading *CEBP* articles. Also, we would like to introduce a new section in *CEBP* called "Looking farther afield. . ." with Dr. Julie Ross as Senior Editor. This editorial feature will summarize one or more recent articles that have been published elsewhere and provide commentary regarding potential relevance to the *CEBP* readership. Initially, topics of interest will be solicited from the *CEBP* editors, but readers are enthusiastically invited to make suggestions and to contribute. It is anticipated that "Looking farther afield. . ." will become a bimonthly feature in *CEBP*.

The strength of *CEBP* is related totally to the high quality of its manuscripts and to the breadth of subject matter in epidemiology and cancer prevention and control. In this vein, 2004 brings a great opportunity to increase the number of published behavioral and social science and cancer survivor-

ship manuscripts. These extremely critical areas of research have been under-represented in *CEBP*, and we would like to encourage original contributions in these areas. Drs. Ellen Gritz, Sally Vernon, and Leslie Robison are the Senior Editors in these important disciplines, and they welcome inquiries concerning suitability of subject matter, ideas for future directions, and any other relevant questions.

We also would like to delineate more clearly our editorial policy related to the publication of *in vitro* and *in vivo* preclinical research data. Generally, such studies should be considered first for submission to one of the other AACR journals, such as *Cancer Research* or *Molecular Cancer Research*. *In vitro* studies will be considered for publication in *CEBP* only if they present a clearly delineated novel connection to cancer epidemiology, biomarkers, or prevention. *In vivo* animal studies must also present highly relevant mechanistic data supporting these research areas. We do not in any way minimize these important scientific contributions, but *CEBP* was initiated, and continues to flourish, as a journal for publication of human research in the areas of cancer epidemiology, cancer biomarkers, and cancer prevention and control. With the rapid expansion of these areas of primary concern, *CEBP* has increasingly tight annual page limits. Our first priority remains the publication of human research.

In conclusion, we want to offer special thanks to our 16 (now 17) outstanding Senior Editors. Their dedication to enhancing the quality of *CEBP* is demonstrated daily, and they are highly responsible for the remarkable success of our journal. We wish them, our reviewers, and our readers an especially successful 2004!

John D. Potter and David S. Alberts
Editors-in-Chief

Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers & Prevention

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