EDITORIAL

The More Things Change...

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If you pay attention to the front pages of *The American Journal of Pathology*, you have noticed a change in the Editor-in-Chief's affiliation. In September of last year, I relocated to Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York. My prior years at the University of Alabama Birmingham were professionally rewarding and personally satisfying, but it was time for a change. Change keeps us moving forward and challenges us to see the world in a fresh light. Now that I am settled in my new position, I can affirm the truth in this sentiment. In the same spirit, the *AJP* is making some fundamental changes to its business model.

The Importance of Image, Literal and Perceived

As the official journal of the American Society for Investigative Pathology (ASIP), the *AJP* serves an important role in disseminating science related to experimental pathology and translational medicine. From a production standpoint, the *AJP* has long prided itself on the quality of the images reproduced in its pages. There was a time when figures were meticulously prepared by medical art departments, submitted by authors on glossy photo paper, carefully scanned and prepared by production experts, and printed by press specialists on high-quality paper. Today's authors, with their students and postdocs, prepare images using computer software in their labs. Figures are submitted and processed electronically and composed into PDFs for publication in both print and online. These advances in production have ushered in decreased costs.

At the *AJP* we have always strived to be fair and equitable in how we relay production costs to authors. To that end our publication charge structure balanced the costs of color with those of grayscale figures and tables—but to a complex end. With the fees broken down into individual elements, authors were sometimes confused and frustrated. To remedy this, we are vastly simplifying our publication charges. Beginning with this issue of the *Journal*, each article will cost \$195 per page, regardless of color inclusion,

and supplemental data fees are being discontinued. Corresponding authors who are Regular Members of ASIP at the time of submission will receive a discount, paying \$185 per page (in addition to waived submission fee). This new structure will dramatically reduce the cost of publishing in *AJP*, where the average article is 12 pages in length. In an effort to maintain consistency in presentation within an article and throughout an issue, color will be limited to scientifically necessary usage, with a preference for black/white/gray fill in bar graphs. We encourage the use of color in schematics and model illustrations, which we believe aid the reader in understanding mechanisms of novel processes. Further details can be found in the Instructions for Authors (available online at <http://ajp.amjpathol.org/content/authorinfo>).

Shifting Boundaries

In this age of digital publishing and online sharing, the lines of who owns content has blurred. Sharing research results increases dissemination of science and sparks innovation. As a consequence, we are introducing changes in author rights. Our copyright form has been updated to more clearly delineate what rights of reuse and sharing are inherent to authors publishing in *AJP*. In addition, the Open Choice program, which provided immediate access to content, is transforming into a full Open Access program. Authors can now obtain a Creative Commons CC BY-NC-ND 4.0 license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>), allowing users to access and share an article easily via this license. For authors whose funding agencies require more liberal open access, such a license will be available (CC BY

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4.0; <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0>). The *AJP*'s parent society (ASIP) will still retain copyright, but author and reader usage will be greatly enhanced and expanded. Instructions on completing copyright forms and requesting Open Access will now be provided by the Publisher at the time of production.

Although we are expanding the sharing possibilities of our content, we are also cognizant of the repercussions of image manipulation and plagiarism. We continue to review article figures for any hint of inappropriate manipulation or reuse, using analysis software when necessary. As an extension of this, we have implemented a process for plagiarism review. Using the online tool iThenticate (<http://www.ithenticate.com/about>), the Editorial Office has begun screening content for high similarities between accepted and previously published text. The benefit of the tool is its inclusion of PubMed-indexed content as well as online-only material. Reports are manually reviewed by Editorial Office staff to control for false positives. These screening changes should not be noticed by authors adhering to the

ethical guidelines set forth in the *AJP*'s Scientific Integrity Policy (available online at <http://ajp.amjpathol.org/content/integrity>).

...The More Things Stay the Same

As I have settled into life in New York, I notice the changes in my daily life—the view when I wake up, my commute through the city, and the different colleagues with whom I interact. Fundamentally, though, the substance of my day remains the same: directing a department of esteemed pathologists, guiding students and fellows in their career decisions, and assessing quality of manuscripts submitted to *AJP*. The latter continues to be a thoroughly enjoyable part of my day, and one that I am honored to continue. I invite you to journey with me as we implement these changes in *AJP* and to submit your manuscripts for publication. I think you will agree that change is good for the soul, as it is for a journal.