EDITORIAL

The Dalhousie Medical Journal - Welcome to the 21st Century!

It is the new Millenium! With that, comes the sixth year that the Dalhousie Medical Journal has been published since its revival in 1995. We continue to expand, and to innovate, as only a dynamic student journal can. We are distributed by the Nova Scotia as well as PEI medical societies, as well as to Dalhousie associated faculty in New Brunswick. We are also distributed to graduate students and basic science faculty associated with Dalhousie, and indeed, our publication can be seen in libraries across Canada.

Last year was an especially trying year for the journal. Technical difficulties along with an awkward review process, meant that only one issue was able to be published. We have made significant changes to correct these difficulties. I would like to thank our readers for their patience, as well as our advertising agency, for their understanding. Additionally, as publishing a journal is an expensive endeavour, I would especially like to thank our advertisers, who displayed great patience during our year of upheaval, and who did not penalize the journal.

This year, however, with Andrew McRae as our new Reviews Editor, we have an exciting new way of doing reviews. We have gone from a paper driven system, to a paperless one, in which reviews are sent out, reviewed, and received electronically. Yes, the DMJ has reached the 21st Century. Additionally, with the help of the previous Editor of the journal, Todd Raine, and the previous DMSS president, a Dalhousie Student Publications Society was established, such that computer disasters do not happen again. The Publications society has equipped the DMJ office with two refurbished computers, a scanner, as well as a fax machine/printer. Storage cabinets and dry/erase boards were also purchased, such that all team members could be kept abreast of the deadlines and progress made in the journal.

With the change in the review process, also comes a change in the way articles can be submitted to the journal. (please see page 36 for more details). In the future, 2 copies of the article, ALONG with a copy submitted on diskette should be submitted. Also, future submitters should look at the NEW DMJ website for ways in which to submit to the journal.

Speaking of the DMJ website, a new one is now in Beta testing. Myself, working alongside our production team of Amy Acker and Patrick Feltmate, both in Med II, are looking at ways to improve the website, which has temporarily been rendered offline.

As with any organization, the DMJ is only as good as its many parts. In the 2000/2001 year, I feel that we have an excellent editorial board. The board, elected in May 2000, consists of the aforementioned, as well as Dian Harun, Med III, for distribution, Kate Lazier, Med II, in finance, Dale Clayton, Med II, in publicity, and Tracey Morris, Med III, in online edition.

I look forward to serving as DMJ Editor for my term of one year, and I hope to reinvigorate, rejuvenate and move the DMJ into the 21st Century.

Neil Isaac
Editor In Chief

Focus
April 11-29, 2001
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Opening Reception
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*life-long sponsor of the Dalhousie Medical Journal*

The Dalhousie Medical Journal Editorial Board also wishes to extend thanks to the Dalhousie Medical Alumni Association, Dr. Howard Dickson, Brian MacDougall, Verlé Harrop, Norene Reinhardt, Anne Weeden and the Kellogg Library.
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