

Editorial

JMATE here to stay



We have reached a number of milestones with JMATE over the past year that just makes the entire effort very worthwhile. First, this issue marks the start of the 2010 series,

volume 3 and that means we have successfully produced 2 complete years and launching into our 3rd year. For that alone we have so many folks to thank, all of whom donated numerous precious hours to make sure we have a quality product and a more reasonable turnover time. In addition, our perseverance has paid off, with our journal getting the following recognition as detailed below.

The Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAG), a project out of Lund University Sweden, offered to enter JMATE into their database. Their aim is to increase the visibility and ease of use of open access scientific and scholarly journals thereby promoting their increased usage and impact. The Directory aims to be comprehensive and cover all open access scientific and scholarly journals that use a quality control system to guarantee the content. In short a one stop shop for users to Open Access Journals. Their directors felt that JMATE had achieved that level of excellence and we are proud to receive that recognition and be listed.

Then recently, unsolicited, CABI (Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International) reviewed our electronic publication, JMATE, and deemed it to be highly relevant to the subject area of applied life sciences judging the content to be both novel and important for indexing coverage. These are used by international agencies including governments, academic institutions and commercial organizations worldwide to search and identify relevant literature. CABI is a not for profit international treaty organization, dedicated to the dissemination of scientific knowledge. They have a

reputation of indexing scientific literature with electronic archives dating back to 1913. JMATE officially made the grade and is now also listed with them and we are honored and pleased to be acknowledged in this way.

From both of these unsolicited offers, we get the signal from the community that JMATE is on the right path, and that our efforts with peer review and feedback to all our authors with suggestions on improvements is warranted. On occasion, it has been my duty to also redirect certain submissions to other journals, despite the work being of value. This is done because the content is so outside of the even the broad mandates of JMATE that it would not be appropriate for publication in our journal. If we were to accept such papers, it really does a disservice to the authors because it would not be read by individuals who can properly appreciate the value of their contribution. So in order for that not to happen, we suggest alternate journals to ultimately help the authors to get to a more appropriate target audience.

The entire editorial staff hopes that everyone out there will consider submitting work, ideas, techniques or opinions they wish to share for publication in JMATE. Our frequency of publication is only predicated on volume of submissions. If the demand is there we will happily expand our issues as needed. We are also very flexible on length of papers, number of pictures and so on if required, we are always happy to accommodate the authors if it results in a publication that both we and they will be proud of.

In addition, the editors are also sensitive and responsive to new or current events that impact on the marine environment, by dedicating issues to key topics or, if the timing is right, expand an issue to accommodate certain event coverage. For example, since our last issue, the Gulf Oil crisis has occurred and continues to threaten the marine environment. We have an invited commentary addressing some of



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the issues surrounding this ongoing event and in particular their experiences to date with trying to offer assistance. I hope this shows everyone that we are always open to individuals with thoughts they would like to share.

I hope you enjoy the content of this issue and look forward to receiving your articles, comments and letters to the editor whenever any of you wish to share your views and opinions.

Dr Carin Wittnich
Editor-in-Chief, JMATE

