

Creating writers for tomorrow: The initial steps

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Dear colleagues,

It gives me an elated feeling in addressing you, through this first communiqué, as the editor-in-chief of the Indian Journal of Radiology and Imaging (IJRI), the apex journal of radiology in our country and the Indian face of radiology in the global arena. I owe the position to all of you, for having elected me to this high office. Over the next three years, slowly and steadily, brick by brick, I shall strive, with your wholehearted co-operation, to make our journal shine bright on the global platform. The real journey begins now, by putting into practice all that I had mentioned in my election manifesto, in the most righteous manner possible. Several stalwarts have walked through this path as editors, in the past, with the zeal to take the journal to newer horizons. Although I sincerely thank all of them, I wish to specially place on record, the support extended by the immediate past editor, Dr. Bhavin Jankharia, with whom I had a great opportunity to serve as the joint editor for six years.

Radiology, as you would be well aware, is developing in quantum, by leaps and bounds. As the editor of this journal, it would be my earnest endeavor to enhance it as a mirror, reflecting the professional scenario of our country.

Although the baseline is continued focus on original research papers and articles from across the fraternity, we have also been witnessing the steady influx of plagiarized articles which have been rejected as a global practice. At the Indian Radiological and Imaging Association (IRIA) Congress at Indore this year, in the focused session pertaining to journalism, I had the opportunity to deliberate on rejected articles, following which, a steady debate across the spectrum is being witnessed. As mentioned in my manifesto, the effort is to find and develop writers for tomorrow.

As highlighted in the same, I plan to conduct sessions together with the faculty for creating these new minds, in connection with which, you would be hearing from me in due course. This zeal for originality would help contribute newer articles, which needs to be much more than just case reports. In the global era today, quality can be picked up from any corner of the planet; hence, IJRI is trying to keep its flag flying.

Reviewers play the most crucial role of accepting or rejecting an article, on the road to print, amidst their very, very busy schedules. Our professional colleagues, who take the effort of completing this daunting task, need to be thanked profusely which we do in the following February issue every year. On the other hand, a steady flow of reviewers are also a must, to keep consciousness of quality alive. I am striving to assimilate more reviewers for articles, by orienting them thus ensuring that a strong base is always there.

During my tenure, I would have the opportunity to attend global meetings and discussions, as a resource person, on topics of current interest, I plan to communicate on those, from time to time. It would also be an excellent opportunity to place my perspective not only as a writer but also as the Editor, IJRI, in front of editors of various reputed journals and a respected audience.

Leading the journey of the journal can never be a one-man affair, or, for that matter, the task of the editorial team alone but a collective effort by the members of the fraternity at large. Hence, from now on, an interactive column is being created wherein you are more than welcome to communicate with me, with suggestion and inputs, throughout at editor@ijri.org

This maiden communication from my pen is only the beginning of a long and challenging road, which we all need to walk collectively.

Before I take leave, the words of Robert Frost are apt from "Stopping by woods on a snowy evening", The woods are lovely dark and deep. But I have promises to keep, And miles to go before I sleep, And miles to go before I sleep. Thank you and walk with me to tread this new path. Long live the IRIA, ICRI, and IJRI.

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