

## The Year in Review

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Greetings AMHP reader! I am pleased to write about some recent changes that have taken place with *Aerospace Medicine and Human Performance*. Two new members were recently welcomed to the AMHP Editorial Board and they joined us for their first meeting last May in Denver. Dr. Rebecca Blue comes to the Board with expertise in commercial spaceflight and emergency medicine. She has been active as both an AMHP author and reviewer. Dr. Ries Simons, who is affiliated with TNO in the Netherlands, will assist when needed as a liaison for international authors. Drs. Blue and Simons are both physicians and offer a wealth of experience.

In terms of changes in the journal, after much discussion and debate, Book Reviews will once again be included in the journal. Many readers of the journal have indicated that the Book Reviews were missed and that reading them in the journal (as opposed to strictly being online) was something they looked forward to. The journal's Editorial Board, after voting to reinstate Book Reviews, has instituted new policies and guidelines for the reviews. Book Reviews are by invitation only. However, individuals may express their willingness to review a book and suggestions about which books that AMHP should review are also welcome. The complete set of AMHP Book Review Guidelines can be accessed at: [https://www.asma.org/asma/media/AsMA/pdf-journal/book\\_review\\_guidelines\\_2017.pdf](https://www.asma.org/asma/media/AsMA/pdf-journal/book_review_guidelines_2017.pdf). So far, one Book Review has been published using the new procedures and one is currently in process.

Another topic the Board discussed at its last meeting in Denver last May was Open Access journals. As many of you are aware, there has been a proliferation of Open Access journals in recent years. There is an obvious appeal to authors in that their work can be made readily available shortly after a manuscript is accepted. Readers of course would like to be able to access all scientific literature for free online. Issues arise because someone must pay for the article to be published—with Open Access it is

typically the author. For readers, who in many cases are researchers who want to cite published articles, the issue is one of journal quality, which varies widely.

In order to assess how AMHP authors and readers feel about Open Access journals, Pam Day, AMHP Managing Editor, designed and distributed a survey. The survey was long and complex—a reflection of the complex issues surrounding Open Access. Please see in this issue of the journal Pam's Commentary, in which she does an outstanding job of describing the survey results. The discussion about Open Access and hybrid models that include an Open Access option will continue.

Finally, after some deliberation, it was decided by the Editorial Board that an Ethics Committee is in the best interest of the journal. During my time as editor, only a few issues have come up that were of an ethical nature. That's a good thing. However, occasionally an issue does rise up and having several individuals to address the issue—as opposed to one—is good practice. Dr. Eilis Boudreau, Dr. Mitch Garber, and Dr. Ries Simons have all agreed to serve on the Ethics Committee. One issue that the committee and the board has recently discussed is inadvertent plagiarism. Often this can occur in the form of self-plagiarism. In order to avoid or reduce the chances of this occurring, authors are encouraged to check their manuscripts prior to submission using plagiarism software.

I close as I often do—encouraging you to consider submitting your work to AMHP or serving as a reviewer for the journal. Both are valuable services to our community. I hope you enjoy AMHP in the coming year. Feel free to contact us with any questions or comments you may have at: [AMHPjournal@asma.org](mailto:AMHPjournal@asma.org).

Wishing you the very best for the New Year!

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