

EDITORIAL

Dear Reader

This is a special issue for the Journal of Applied Oral Science. We began the year with two great news that translate the evolution of the journal. Starting this year, JAOS will be supported by CNPq through the Support Program for Scientific Publication. Yet, we have been awarded the approval to be included in the database of SciELO. We thank everybody whose manuscripts or revisions made the necessary improvements towards the accomplishment of this goal. We want to thank our backstage team, including the administration of Bauru School of Dentistry, whose work makes the difference, taking care of the adjustments and expediting the procedures. We understand that much has yet to be done, but such support is a step forward excellence.

Many of you congratulated with us, and we reassure the conviction that team work is responsible for such achievements and we appreciate the honor to have you all collaborating with us this year. Congratulations to you all.

This issue carries the revision paper entitled: "Reverse transcription and polymerase chain reaction: principles and applications in dentistry", which offers an interesting and exciting analysis of the potential that molecular biology techniques, in particular the PCR, posses for the development of studies in the field of Dentistry.

Recently, Prof. Ernesto Piloto introduced the DENTAL REVIEW – Brazilian Dental Guide (www.dentalreview.com.br), which is available to the dental community on line. It contains 12,696 titles with abstracts that were published in 172 Brazilian Dental Journals between 1996 and 2002, including those published in continuation from 2003 and years to come. The site proposes to help dentists and students to update their literature needs, and may be a fundamental starting point for their development.

We have begun the arrangements for the next scientific meeting of scientific editors, scheduled for next November 4 to 6, 2004. We have confirmed the presence of Drs. Mark Herzberg (from JDR), David Watts (Dent Mater) among others. The meeting will focus on the merit analysis of scientific articles and workshops to discuss and improve the revision criteria of manuscripts. We hope to see you in Bauru next November.

We take the opportunity in this Editorial to beg your attention to the fact that we should intensify the use of the Portal Periódicos-Capes (<http://www.periodicos.capes.gov.br>). The low-frequency use of the site has raised the idea of terminating this important research tool. We need to stimulate the scientific community to make all efforts to maintain this outstanding literature follow-up system.

Thank you.

The Editors