

## EDITORIAL

The IOMP Journal Medical Physics International (MPI) successfully completed its first 4-year term in 2017. During this time the IOMP Journal that is dedicated to educational and professional issues published more than 650 pages of reviewed papers and c. 1300 pages with abstracts of IOMP- supported Conferences. A number of the papers in the first 10 issues were downloaded more than 5,000 times each.

The success of the MPI Journal proved the need of a forum for discussion of our educational, professional and other related issues. This is specially important for topics related to e-Learning (e-L), as often e-L materials have short period of life and require quick dissemination and use. Behind the establishment of the Journal was the necessity of an e-L forum. This was identified in the Special Issue on “e-Learning in Medical Engineering and Physics”, published by the Journal Medical Engineering and Physics (Guest-Editor S Tabakov, 2005). This idea was further developed through the ICTP College on Medical Physics, which was regularly served by the free web-sites of Sprawls Educational Foundation and Emerald/Emit/Emitel projects. The IOMP ExCom approved the idea of Journal establishment in 2012 and by the end of the year the foundations of MPI were laid down: the name was suggested by W. Hendee; an ISSN number was obtained (2306-4609), a web site was made by M Stoeva, and an Editorial Board was formed including colleagues from IOMP ExCom and representatives of the IOMP Regional Organizations (Federations).

We are grateful to all Founding members of the MPI Editorial team: KY Cheung; Madan Rehani; William Hendee; Tae Suk Suh; John Damilakis; Virginia Tsapaki; Raymond Wu; Simone Kodlulovich-Renha; Anchali Krisanachinda; Taofeeq Ige; Technical Editors: Magdalena Stoeva and Asen Cvetkov; Editorial Assistant: Vassilka Tabakova.

We are also specially grateful to the authors of all papers submitted and published in the MPI Journal. It was mainly due to them that the Journal had such a successful start and continues to engage an ever growing number of readers and authors.

As usual, we are including some brief statistics from the server of MPI Journal. This official statistics includes not only the readers, but also the geographical spread of the Journal usage and the most frequently read papers. For example only in one randomly selected day (10 Sep 2017) there have been between 10 and 50 readers per hour. The figure below shows part of the server statistics of MPI during the period covering August 2017 to April 2018 – the visits are about 11,000 per month, while their geographical spread indicates that more than 50% of readers are from Low-and-Middle-Income countries.

At the IOMP ExCom meeting in Jaipur (Nov 2017), the Founding MPI Editors-in-Chief (S Tabakov and P Sprawls) were approved to continue leading the Journal for another period of 4 years and additional members were included in the Editorial Board. The new period of the MPI Journal started with the first Special Issue of MPI, dedicated to the large IOMP Project “History of Medical Physics”. This Special Issue is available for free download from: [www.mpijournal.org/pdf/2018-SI-01/MPI-2018-SI-01.pdf](http://www.mpijournal.org/pdf/2018-SI-01/MPI-2018-SI-01.pdf) It includes the first chapters of the History of the profession, related to X-ray Tubes, Radiographic Receptors and e-Learning. The new current issue here includes a number of new papers, as well as abstracts from the IOMP School from Prague (WC2018). We are looking forward to the further success of the MPI – the IOMP Journal dedicated to education, training and professional issues.

**Slavik Tabakov and Perry Sprawls**  
**MPI Journal Co-Editors-in-Chief**

