

Editorial

With this issue, the Journal of Vestibular Research reaches a milestone, having published 10 complete volumes over its 11 years. In that period of time, the original concept, as outlined in the first editorial, has reached maturity and established a strong justification for itself. This has only been possible through the encouragement, cooperation, and support of our contributors, subscribers, and editorial staff, including, and most significantly, reviewers, and especially through the confidence of the publishers.

Conception of this journal came about, partly through the association of a basic and a clinical researcher in vestibular science, looking for a place to publish, and partly as a consequence of frustration, during the 1980s, with inadequate representation of publishing options for scholarly works in basic and clinical vestibular science. A journal dedicated to this was clearly necessary. The search for a publisher willing to take on an unknown risk led us to a very understanding vice-president of the then-prestigious Pergamon Press Inc., part of the Maxwell empire. With expert guidance, and a mixture of exhilaration and apprehension, we produced 3 volumes before Pergamon was swallowed up by the Elsevier Science Group. Elsevier continued to support our journal until, in 1998, economic

pressures dictated a reassessment, as experienced by many limited-circulation journals, and a change of publishers to IOS Press, our current publisher. Scientific investigators cannot function properly without outlets for appropriate circulation of their findings, and we all owe a great deal to those in the publishing business who make it possible to publish our work. A lot of unnoticed guidance and support happens behind every issue.

Now the time has come for new and fresh minds to take the Journal into the future, as Des and I, in our retirement, become increasingly out of touch with the field. We have been seeking the right successor for some time, and have succeeded, with the approval of the publisher, in enticing Joseph Furman to take over as editor-in-chief. Our confidence in his capability is self evident. We know that Joe will take the Journal to new heights, and the opportunity for us to witness this as "emeritus editors" is much appreciated.

Once again, to all who have contributed, in any way, our heartfelt thanks. "May you live in interesting times".

Desmond Ireland and Ralph Jell