

Journal of Integrated OMICS – Where no journal has gone before

The first International Congress on Analytical Proteomics – ICAP - was held in Caparica, Portugal, in 2008. This congress was conceived to cover a gap in the proteomics world, namely a direct link to the rigorous techniques of analytical chemistry through method development. Other international congresses such as HUPO or EuPa cover method development but not in a monographic format. During this first ICAP, discussions took place among the participants regarding the opportunity of promoting a new forum for discussion within the galaxy of journals devoted to proteomics. It was soon agreed that the new journal should meet some specific criteria that would clearly establish the technical interface between 'Omics approaches and analytical chemistry that was to be supported and promoted. Thus, it was established that a journal of the 21st century should not only be open access and thus fully available to everyone, but also open in many different ways. This operating philosophy thus defined a set of novel characteristics for the nascent journal. First, as has been said, access should it be open to all researchers. Second, the target areas of the new journal should cover the breadth of disciplines defining the 'Omics arena, not only proteomics. Third, publication of papers dealing with methodological development should be encouraged, but the journal should not be restricted only to this. Finally, and uniquely, the Journal should be published by its own staff. Accordingly, a low fee of about 100 Eu was set as the regular price to be paid for publishing in the Journal. After extensive debate, the name of the new journal was set as Journal of Integrated OMICS — A Methodological Journal. We thank Professor Jens Coorsen, (University of Western Sydney, Australia), as he first suggested this name that finally became the official title of the new Journal. It was also decided to open the Editorial Board to all researchers with demonstrated experience in any OMIC field who were interested to help in any way to develop this new initiative — to serve as editor, referee, or both.

The next step in establishing the new Journal was to create an official site. Professor Florentino Fdez-Riverola (University of Vigo, Spain), contributed substantially to this task, and the website was launched April 9, 2010. The excellent result can viewed via the link www.jiomics.com. The website also includes a Forum, <http://www.bioscopegroup.org/jiomicsforum/>, recently created to support collegial debate on subjects of interest for the

OMICs community such as new advances in mass spectrometry or chromatography.

Last, but not least, it was necessary to communicate the existence of this new International Journal to the scientific community, requesting the cooperation of all those who would like to collaborate with this initiative. Therefore an international call was made requesting members for the Editorial Board; this was a great success and to date, there are more than 200 associated editors. We are proud to say that our membership reflects true international breadth.

The ISSN of the Journal was obtained in January 2011. IDOI will be assigned to our academic papers, and we hope to also be indexed in SCOPUS and SciFinder in the near future.

We certainly wish to acknowledge all authors participating in the launching of the first issue. On the horizon, other researchers will consider JIOMICS as their regular publishing media. For their contributions, we are indebted to Gilberto Igrejas, Qing-Yu He, Alan J. Tacketta, Marco A. Z. Arruda, Guoping Zhang, Chantagan Srisomsap, Randen L. Patterson, Damian B. van Rossum, Ganesh Chandra Sahoo, Elena López, Rune Matthiesen, Jan-Jaap Wesseling, Antonio Ferreira, Kay Ohlendieck, Bernard Corfe, Janina M. Tomm, Ying-Ray Lee, Hong-Lin Chan, Maria Moreno, Pieter de Lange, Eiji Kinoshita, Vladimir Lazarevic, and Martin von Bergen. Thanks indeed for entrusting us with your work.

Next July, 2011, the 2nd ICAP (<http://sing.ei.uvigo.es/ICAP/>) will be held in Ourense, Spain. A number of issues regarding the journal will be discussed there, including the option to open for general comment the reviewing of the papers and other questions that any member of the editorial board might raise.

We would like to close by encouraging all the editorial staff to contribute actively to the success of JIOMICS, because this journal belongs to all of us.

Ourense, February 2011

On behalf of the Editors-in-Chief,

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