

A recognition of broad support

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In this issue of *The Angle Orthodontist* you will notice a change in our masthead, designed to more accurately reflect how decisions are made regarding the publication of scientific material. The current Board of Directors of the Edward H. Angle Society of Orthodontists and its Foundation will become the Executive Board, reflecting the authority behind the publication of an international bimonthly scientific journal with editorial and business offices. The addition of three associate editors will strengthen journal operations with the increased delegation of topic-specific editorials and commentaries.

Of course the backbone of this publication will continue to be the rigorous review of all incoming papers by specialists from around the world. Many of those now listed on the expanded Editorial Board have worked diligently as reviewers during the past few years and have agreed to continue to serve in the future. An attempt has been made to represent as many different countries as possible to more accurately reflect our worldwide readership. These individuals will periodically move off the panel of reviewers to provide opportunities for others with special interests and skills to be so honored.

As the standards for good research continue to rise, it may seem that it is more difficult for the typical researcher to see material published. This can be discouraging to an author, but at the same time, our readers demand these high standards. When they take time to read the results of a long-

term study and are prepared to make a change in the way they treat patients or understand a concept, they want assurance that the researcher's conclusions are supported by the data, and can be trusted. Most papers submitted for publication require revisions that can take several months, and occasionally a paper will require a second review. In the past 8 years only one paper has been published by the *Angle Orthodontist* that did not require one word of revision; it was authored by the late Arthur B. Lewis, better known as "Buzz." His background was impressive and included serving as Editor of this journal for 29 years.

To determine the "Gold Standard" in publications you might search the Journal Citation Reports (JCR). This is an excellent source of information on scientific journals, reporting on nearly 6,000 publications from 60 nations, and covering virtually every specialty in science and technology. By tallying how often articles are cited, the index serves as an indicator of how researchers are using the literature. It tells us which journals are most frequently used, which are the 'hottest,' and which are the largest. It may be of interest to note that even with the advent of several new publications in recent years, only two orthodontic journals are currently ranked by the Journal Citation Reports—*The American Journal of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics* and *The Angle Orthodontist*. You can rest assured this journal is working hard to continue moving up in the rankings in 1997.