

Letter from the Editors

This marks the 8th edition of The Duke Orthopaedic Journal (DOJ). We would like to thank past editorial boards and journal founders, Selene Parekh, Will Eward, and Stephanie Mayer, who have brought the journal from infancy to a critical component of the Duke Orthopaedic tradition. We have been overwhelmed by the high-quality scientific submissions, as well as special interest articles that update our readers on the year's highlights and accomplishments within Duke Orthopaedics.

Maintaining the blend of scientific and special interest articles poses some unique challenges. There is increasing interest amongst our readers and contributors in having the journal indexed through PubMed, the free search engine associated with the MEDLINE database and scientific publications. This would enhance DOJ's prestige and offer a wider readership. Through our efforts to this end, we have been motivated by PubMed to further expand the volume of scientific research articles published.

Thanks to the generosity of the Piedmont Society, we are proud to introduce the James Urbaniak Research Excellence Award. This honor, along with a \$500 cash prize, will be awarded to one or two of the most outstanding scientific papers. We would like to congratulate Alexander Lampley and Kendall Bradley as the inaugural James Urbaniak Research Excellence Award winners.

The Duke Orthopaedic Journal is now accepting article submissions from outside of Duke Orthopaedics and the Piedmont Society, and we are now encouraging other specialities, such as plastic surgery and physical medicine and rehabilitation, to submit their manuscripts.

The Journal has also expanded the double-blinded peer review process to include Orthopaedic Faculty from other institutions, as well as Duke, to improve the quality of articles and expand the exposure of DOJ at other institutions.

We are hopeful that the efforts made would significantly improve the quality of scientific research articles and will allow us to be indexed on PubMed in the near future.

We would like to thank our current faculty advisor Dr Rhett Hallows for his guidance throughout the publication process. We would like to thank our sponsors for their continuous support. Finally, we would like to pay tribute to Dr Hardaker, who has made Duke Orthopaedics a premier program. His legacy will never be forgotten.

We hope that you find this year's edition of the DOJ enjoyable and informative, while providing another venue to connect with the Duke Orthopaedic Family.

Sincerely,

Sean Ryan MD
Brian Dial MD
Evan Guerrero MD