

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



**Philip J. Addis, MSc, FIBMS**

Dear Readers,

This morning, I typed “plastination” into PubMed. There were 195 records, including the subsets “plastination anatomy”, “sheet plastination” and “plastination technique”, with ten papers so far already published in 2016. Papers on plastination have been published in an astonishing one hundred and three different peer-reviewed journals, covering surgical anatomy, veterinary anatomy and anatomical education, as well as journals specialising in more arcane fields such as dysphagia, the voice, congenital anomalies, and experimental gerontology. Papers on plastination have been published in Polish, German, Russian, Japanese, Spanish, and Chinese, alongside the English majority. The most notable absentee from the list of 103 journals is, of course, The Journal of Plastination, which is not listed by the National Library of Medicine, and hence has no PubMed identifier. Last year I submitted an application to the Literature Selection Technical Review Committee (LSTRC) of the NLM, for the Journal of Plastination to be included in MEDLINE. Unfortunately the process is rather slow, so no decision has been reached at the time of writing. However, I am confident that we will be successful, which will be a notable way of marking the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the publication of the first issue, in January 1987.

In this issue, you will find papers describing technical innovations in the field of plastination, including an ingenious approach by Chadhary et al. which describes a low-cost method of plastination using laboratory waste; a comparison of low-temperature and room-temperature techniques from Starchik and Henry; a modified polyester technique from China described by Sui and Henry; and an assessment of two different colouring techniques from Kang et al.

I have made the point before, that a journal can only be as good as the papers it publishes, and on behalf of the editorial board I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you have submitted manuscripts for publication in the Journal of Plastination. We rely on you for the continuing success of your journal.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Philip Addis". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized script.

Phil Addis, Editor, the Journal of Plastination