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Letter from the President

Dear fellow plastinators,

Since our meeting in St. Etienne last summer, several changes have taken place with our journal, all of them intended to enhance the scientific quality of the journal to the best possible level.

The Editorial Board (EB), a group of thirteen internationally renown scientists from all over the world, has set up guidelines for authors (attached at the end of this issue), reviewers and editors. The objectives of these guidelines and of the EB are to professionally assist you, the authors, with your publication and to ensure that your articles are published in a high quality journal.

Robert W. Henry, who besides serving the ISP as treasurer, accepted the challenge to chair this committee until an editor is appointed. He has done a tremendous job both in overseeing the establishment of *Guidelines for Authors* and the production of this *volume 16 of the JISP*. The obvious high quality of our new journal is due in part to his merit and the merit of Dr. Robert B. Reed, Jr., Assistant Editor.

I do hope that, with the increase of both scientific and layout quality of the new JISP, you are encouraged to submit high quality research and education papers to ensure that the JISP will flourish.

The search for the new editor is just about to come to an end. The JC will soon suggest the candidate to be appointed editor of the Journal of the ISP. The editor's charge will be to ensure continuity of what has begun with our journal and to continue its improvement.

Moreover, you will shortly be asked for nominations of officers - i.e. president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer – please begin to think about nominees and also about your own willingness to serve as an officer for a two-year term.

I am looking forward to meeting you and to exchange ideas and news during the 11th International Conference on Plastination in San Juan, Puerto Rico from July 14th through 19th, 2002. Start now to plan your trip to Puerto Rico!

Finally, I need to address a sad circumstance. The father and first Executive Director of this Society and the father and first Editor of this Journal, our Honored Member Dr. Harmon Bickley, passed away on February 19, 2001, in Ludington, Michigan following a period of declining health. To honor his work for this society, this volume is dedicated in memory of Dr. Harmon Bickley. *Requiescat in pace!*

With the kindest regards from Graz, Austria.

Andreas H. Weiglein
ISP-President