The Journal Continues to Grow

George O. Waring III, MD, FACS, FRCOphth

The number of manuscripts submitted to the Journal of Refractive Surgery has increased every year for the past 5 years. In 1995, this created a backlog that increased the time from acceptance to publication to approximately 1 year—too long! The Journal’s editorial staff, publisher, and sponsoring society have instituted a number of measures to increase the speed with which articles are reviewed and published.

ASSOCIATE AND ASSISTANT EDITORS
Robert Maloney, MD, MA (Oxon), served as Associate Editor from 1993 through 1995, contributing substantially to the Journal’s growth and quality with diligent and prompt communications to both reviewers and authors. On behalf of the readers and editorial board, I thank Dr. Maloney for his outstanding period of service.

To speed the review process, the Journal now has three additional editors. I welcome the active participation of Ronald Krueger, MD, as Associate Editor and Dimitri Azar, MD, and Jonathan Talamo, MD, as Assistant Editors. Investing their valuable time, energy, and knowledge without compensation to assist in the peer review of articles and to provide editorial support for the authors bespeaks their commitment to ophthalmology and to the subspecialty of refractive surgery. We four editors and the Journal’s able and persistent managing editor, Katherine Lindstrom, MPH, will accelerate the peer review process in 1996.

INCREASED NUMBER OF PAGES
Heretofore, the Journal has published approximately 70 pages per issue. We will now publish 100 pages per issue, which—when combined with this special 200-page issue—will allow more rapid publication of accepted articles. The increased number of pages will increase the cost of the Journal for the International Society of Refractive Surgery (ISRS) and will reduce profits for Slack, Inc, until the number of subscriptions and advertising pages increases.

On behalf of the authors and the readers, I thank the Society and the Publisher for their ongoing commitment to the Journal’s growth.

COLLABORATION WITH OTHER SOCIETIES
In 1994 through 1995, the European Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery and ISRS exchanged journals for the benefit of their members. The European Journal of Cataract and Implant Surgery will cease to exist in 1996, when it will be amalgamated with the Journal of Cataract and Refractive Surgery, published by the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery. Thus, members of ISRS will cease to receive it. We wish our sister publication well in its consolidation and growth.

The American Academy of Ophthalmology’s Refractive Surgery Interest Group (RSIG) has been established to keep Academy members—mostly comprehensive ophthalmologists—well informed about refractive surgery. The RSIG serves a needed role, which supplements that of the subspecialized ISRS. To assist in this new effort, we are offering the Journal of Refractive Surgery at a discounted rate to members of RSIG. Not only will this disseminate more information on refractive surgery to this group of Academy members, but it will also increase the circulation of the Journal and encourage those members of RSIG who desire advanced, in-depth knowledge of refractive surgery to also join ISRS.

ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING
As previously announced (Kearns L. “Journal of Refractive Surgery joins the World Wide Web.” J Refract Surg. 1995;11:332-333 [News]), the Journal will be published electronically during 1996 on Slack’s home page on the World Wide Web. This site is accessible through ISRS On-Line, a service of the Society to members under the leadership of Dan Durrie, MD, Robert Maloney, MD, MA (Oxon), Mr. Greg Hanson, Theodore Werbin, MD, PhD, Jeffrey Robin, MD, and Mr. Mario Cavallini—combining the resources of ISRS, Slack, and the Refractive Surgery
Services Co. This will be a gradual process, beginning with the publication of abstracts only, which will be available to anyone browsing the web, followed later by the publication of the full text and graphics of articles, available only to subscribers of the Journal. Electronic publication will disseminate information on refractive surgery even faster, because the abstracts and articles will appear soon after acceptance and final editing.

INCREASED PARTICIPATION

With these expanded capabilities, the Journal seeks the active participation of all of the refractive surgery community at all levels of communication—from a quick letter to the editor to an in-depth original article. Let us hear from you.

Ronald R. Krueger, MD, MSE

Prior to receiving his medical degree from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey Medical School, Dr Krueger received a Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering from Rutgers University and Masters of Science in biomedical engineering (MSE) from the University of Washington. Following the completion of an internship at the Hackensack Medical Center in New Jersey, Dr Krueger completed his residency training in ophthalmology at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in New York City and a cornea and refractive surgery fellowship at both the University of Oklahoma, Dean McGee Eye Institute in Oklahoma City and the University of Southern California, Doheny Eye Institute in Los Angeles. He has been an Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology at the St. Louis University Health Science Center and the Anheuser-Busch Eye Institute, St. Louis, Mo, since 1993 where he specializes in cornea, external disease, and refractive surgery.

In 1984, he began studying excimer laser photorefractive keratectomy of the cornea, which has remained his primary research focus in ophthalmology for the past 12 years. His other research interests include solid-state laser tissue interaction, corneal topography, and new corneal and refractive surgical procedures.

He is the author of over 25 peer-reviewed publications and three book chapters, and he is currently coauthoring his own book on excimer laser surgery to be published later this year. He has been a member of the International Society of Refractive Surgery since 1992 and has served on the editorial board of the Journal of Refractive Surgery since 1994.

Dimitri Azar, MD

Dr Azar joined the Wilmer Ophthalmological Institute at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in 1991 where he is currently Director of the Refractive Surgery Service. He maintains an active practice in refractive and corneal surgery and is assistant editor of the Journal of Refractive Surgery. He devotes his research to study wound healing after refractive surgical procedures for which he is funded by NIH.

Jonathan Talamo, MD

Dr Talamo is a graduate of the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He completed residency training at the Wilmer Ophthalmological Institute of the Johns Hopkins Hospital and a cornea fellowship at the Massachusetts Eye & Ear Infirmary, where he recently served as the Director of the Keratorefractive Surgery Unit and Acting Director of the Cornea Service. He is currently in private practice with Cornea Consultants in Boston, Mass, and is an Assistant Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology at Harvard Medical School.