

IeJSME celebrates its 10th Anniversary

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The year 2017 marks a significant milestone in the International e-Journal of Science, Medicine and Education (IeJSME)'s history – the journal celebrates its 10th Anniversary. It is a joyful year as the International Medical University (IMU) also celebrates its 25th Anniversary this year. The inaugural issue of the journal was launched in 2007 to coincide with IMU's 5th Anniversary and the initiative came from IMU's President who believed in this necessity from both the perspectives of a maturing university and the advancement of science. The broad scope of the journal is intentional to make the journal general, encompassing the three broad areas of basic science, clinical practice and health professions education, and partly to ensure that the journal is sustainable. On this 10th Anniversary of the journal, it is an opportune time for us to reflect on the journey we have taken, the accomplishments we have achieved and to take cognizance of the challenges we will face as we move forward to take this journal to a higher level.

Looking back, I would like to formally acknowledge the founding Editor of IeJSME, Prof Richard Loh Li-Cher for his enthusiasm, determination and efforts in launching this journal in 2007 and for successfully managing the issues till 2010 when he left the IMU for another academic opportunity. This free online open-access journal had the fundamental objective to make publishing of papers by researchers a pleasurable and meaningful one as well as allowing more editorial efficiency.

The journal benefited from several changes and milestones to improve its range of authors (local and international) as well as its readership. The journal started with two regular issues annually with an occasional supplementary issue featuring conference abstracts or review articles from IMU's senior faculty to commemorate significant events such as IMU's research anniversaries, IMU's 20th anniversary celebrations etc. As a thank you and in acknowledgement of our

growing readership and article submissions, from 2014 we have increased the number of issues to three regular issues per year. In 2011, we obtained an ISSN number for our journal from the National Library of Malaysia and proceeded to register our journal on various websites which included Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), EBSCO, Malaysian Citation Centre (MyCITE), Index Copernicus International and WHO Western Pacific Region Index Medicus (WPRIM). Since 2013, we created a new look for the journal by introducing covers featuring various photos to reflect the theme for that particular issue. Currently we publish original articles, review articles, case reports, commentaries and letters to the editor. Although we no longer publish conference abstracts, we have created a section for publishing original articles from undergraduate student research projects to encourage students to gain experience in publishing their research findings. Over the decade, the journal has published over 160 original articles and reviews as well as an additional 36 articles in supplements.

In terms of moving forward in making IeJSME more interactive with its readers, maximizing the opportunities arising with the information revolution we will be upgrading our journal website and improving the online submission and reviewing processes to increase editorial efficiency. We are also working towards indexing our journal on international websites like Scopus and National Library of Medicine / PubMed. We will continue to take this journal forward and we hope to do this with continuous support from both authors and readers and would like to thank everyone who has supported us all these years. With many good authors and the strong support of the IMU management, the journal has thrived and filled an important niche in basic science, clinical practice and health professions education.

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