

I accepted the challenge of the *Journal of Experimental and Clinical Medicine (JECM)* as one appropriate for another phase of my career—different from the first. Concerned about the fairness and broad sweep of immunology in the late 1960s, I was convinced of the utility and intellectual worthiness of exploring the immune systems of primitive species. In other words, I the biologist/zoologist chose to create an amalgam of the nascent immunology of the early 1960s with ancient zoology (since Aristotle) to derive comparative immunology.

Now where does *JECM* fit into this scheme? Clearly, *JECM* is our attempt to contribute in a noble way to ameliorating the cause of human pain and suffering through the enlightening approach of information: publication which if done properly and with the highest standards of peer review will serve to influence later works and in so doing exert an “infectious” intellectual, spreading effect. Like medicine, the face of publishing has changed enormously, perhaps more than certain approaches to medicine itself. Nevertheless, there is a vision to medicine in the 21st century that includes, according to Scientific American 2006, hope for a short list of diseases, by no means exhaustive, such as: malaria, virtual reality therapy, heart surgery, pain control, stem cells, universal genomes, suspended animation. And this should extend from those borders to a universal influence. Clearly, there is an illustrious period behind us that surely carried over into the current period of phenomenal growth and influence. It is rather common knowledge that the 18th century produced vaccine against smallpox which, by analogy, was a fertilized egg that hatched the rewards of 20th century immunology and its dissection into far more than was anticipated: phagocytosis in an invertebrate animal by the sea, Metchnikoff split the monolithic 19th century immunology into cellular and humoral; then came another schism, into innate and adaptive. Now there is the recognition that adaptive immunity as purely an attribute of vertebrate animals including humans is dependent on the ancient innate arm of the immune system. Now the three essential characters especially for human immunity include, in the broadest terms, the ever-present phagocyte in all its guises (our ancient ancestor), and the T cells and B cells, newcomers in the evolutionary sense. Human bone marrow, nearer to the frogs’ than most fish, is an incubator of the source of cell machinery, the millions of drivers of our existence. What will *JECM* capture as it contributes to the seeming onslaught of biomedical journals? Founding Editor, President Wen-Ta Chiu, aims to exert a most positive influence. He is the President of the Asia-Pacific Academic Consortium for Public Health (APACPH) and other societies (Academy for Multidisciplinary Neurotraumatology, etc.). The APACPH consists of 64 universities from 21 countries. In 2009, the APACPH Annual Conference will be held in Taipei, in December 3–6. There will be five workshops within a 3-day program; there are most likely about 700 abstracts (not

including invited speakers and workshops). This should provide a most convenient and inspiring venue in which to unveil *JECM* with every hope that it will inspire the submission of high-quality full original papers (reviews, commentaries, experimental and clinical papers) to *JECM*. Almost simultaneously, we hope that *JECM* will assume the position of best journal in the Asia-Pacific region.

The Asia-Pacific Journal of Public Health is Moving on...

Wah Yun Low

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The Asia-Pacific Journal of Public Health (APJPH) is owned by the Asia Pacific Academic Consortium for Public Health (APACPH) with membership of 69 Schools of Public Health from about 20 countries in the Asia Pacific region. The Journal is a monumental flagship of APACPH and has completed 22 years of publication since its inaugural issue in 1987. This peer-reviewed Journal is dedicated to supporting the mission of APACPH which is to enhance the quality of professional education for public health and primary health care of its member institutions. Throughout these years, the Journal has transformed and grown into a respectable and accessible journal in the region. The journal is a channel of documenting and communicating evidence based research findings, public health programs and strategies, and lessons learnt, and we intend to make this Journal a cutting-edge journal for public health issues in the region. It serves as a catalyst, stimulate discussion and action and help us meet the global challenges we are facing. The popularity and the visibility of the Journal have increased tremendously when the Journal joined forces with Sage Publications in 2008. Together with my editorial team, we hope to bring the Journal to a higher level and become an international journal of high quality publications. The APJPH is rapidly moving on.