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Editorial: It is time for a change

Welcome to Volume 27 of the *International Journal of Paediatric Dentistry*. In 2016, the Journal has received 604 manuscripts from 60 countries. Those accepted have come from 19 different countries, showing we truly are an international journal. The reviewers have to be congratulated on an average turn round of 10 days leading to an initial decision inside 18 days.

I have been Editor-in-Chief for six years and it is my intention to stand down at the end of 2017. The search for my replacement will start with an advert in the near future, if it is not already out by the time you read this. I have really enjoyed being Editor and although it keeps me busy with, on average, two submissions per day it has benefited me in many ways. Firstly it helps my continuing education as I learn from papers on subjects I would not otherwise necessarily have read. Secondly it has brought me into contact with many bright and interesting academics and clinicians across the world.

However, one aspect of the job that does sadden me is the degree of academic fraud I encounter. This ranges from case reports with large numbers of authors, where they cannot all have been involved, to full blown plagiarism, with whole pieces of other people's work being claimed by another author. I have had at least one case of the latter in every year as Editor. The Journal uses plagiarism software and the Editors of the Paediatric journals and other journals work together to share information. We must ensure that we create and foster the highest standards of conduct in all our institutions, so that those we teach understand what is and what is not acceptable.

I would like to thank all the reviewers who have supported the Journal in the past year and it is my pleasure to announce that Dr. Janice A. Townsend of Louisiana State University, U.S.A. is the *Reviewer of the Year*.

I would like to welcome Marcelo Bönecker, Professor and Chair Department of Paediatric Dentistry, School of Dentistry, University of Sao Paulo, to the Editorial Board.

I will take this opportunity to thank the two Associate Editors, Dr Anne O'Connell and Dr Sondos Albadri, for all their help and advice.

My thanks also go to the team at Wiley-Blackwell, Maria Borja (Editorial Assistant) and Bhavani Ponnivalavan (Production Editor) for their support and hard work, together with Mie Bak (Journal Publishing Manager), who has brought a lot of innovation to the Journal, such as the *Editor's Choice*.

My final thanks go to all the authors and readers of the Journal. I wish you all a successful and happy 2017.

Chris Deery
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