

New Beginnings

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I am deeply honoured to have been chosen as the new Editor-in-Chief of The Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences. I pledge to serve to the best of my ability and to work industriously in this position.

It is appropriate and fitting to acknowledge the tremendous contributions, hard work, strong leadership and dedication of my predecessor, Doug Zochodne, under whom the Journal has made important gains. Doug elicited excellent original and review articles, pioneered neuroimaging highlights, commentaries, peer reviewed letters and organized the publication of abstracts of papers presented at the First Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association of Neuroscience in May of this year. The number of submissions to the Journal has grown steadily. He has left it in good shape, and we are the better for his efforts.

I know Doug and his predecessors, Drs. Sharpe, Lee and Ross, have struggled to make the Journal the voice of Canadian neuroscience and to raise its impact factor. The latter is a measure by which a standard article from a particular journal has been cited in a given period of time. It has been difficult to raise the Journal's profile by this measure. Accomplishing this goal requires YOUR help and involvement. A journal is as good as the quality and quantity of the articles it receives. Please submit your best work to us!

We should take pride in our national Journal founded some 34 years ago. I would like to see the Journal serve as THE showcase for clinical and basic neuroscience in Canada. There are several steps that will help in this regard:

1. Increasing the publication rate to 6/year, going to monthly publications in time. This will increase the visibility of the Journal.
2. Appointing a basic neuroscientist to the Editorial Board. The Journal can act as the medium for basic neuroscience for articles, abstracts of meetings and notices.
3. Making the Journal truly bilingual with all articles in both French and English, not just having bilingual abstracts. We may need to start with the electronic version and then with paper when we can afford it.
4. Appoint a francophone neurologist or neurosurgeon as an Associate Editor.
5. Individual appeals to clinical and basic neuroscientists to contribute articles.
6. Encourage research and review articles by neuro-nurses.
7. Have a regular (in each issue) clinical case presentation, either presentations from Grand Rounds or clinical-pathological conferences, with excellent discussions and literature reviews. Clinicians enjoy the challenge and gain from the reviews.
8. Switch entirely from paper-based to electronic submissions and reviews of manuscripts.
9. Pediatric neurology and neurosurgery have been under-represented in the Journal. A special effort needs to be made in these disciplines to encourage submission of original and review articles.

Many of these issues and steps have been discussed and considered at the Editorial Board and Publications Committee levels. It is time to move forward and accomplish this vision. We have an excellent staff at the Journal office; they are prepared, willing and adaptable. Again, I ask for your help and support in making the Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences as good as it can be - - and that is great!

*G. Bryan Young
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Bryan Young Bio

Dr. Bryan Young graduated from the University of Saskatchewan in 1970. His neurological, EEG and epilepsy training was at the University of Western Ontario. He has subsequently worked at teaching hospitals in London, Ontario, Saskatoon and Toronto. His main clinical and research interest is in neurocritical care.