

A New Chapter in the Life of the Journal

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On January 30, 2017, the *University of Louisville Journal of Respiratory Infections* was born. On that day, we published our first editorial under the title “Why a new journal?”[1] In that article, I explained that in the current environment, if an investigator wanted to publish a manuscript that was not significant enough to be accepted in a traditional peer-review journal, the only path to publication was through an open access journal operating under a pay-to-publish model. In such a model, investigators would have to pay for their work to be published.

In my opinion, this problem, which was significant in 2017, has not been resolved; on the contrary, today, it is worse than four years ago. We believed that a new model was needed that would remove the financial obstacles for readers as well as investigators when the time came to share new scientific knowledge. This was the reason why we developed the new journal to be peer-reviewed, open access, and free of charge for authors and readers alike. The *University of Louisville Journal of Respiratory Infections* has fulfilled its original goal, and to date, the *Journal* has produced 124 publications, facilitating the dissemination of information in the field of respiratory infections. The map below (**Figure 1**) illustrates the number of times articles have been downloaded across the globe.

After four years with myself as the Editor-in-Chief, the *Journal* is shifting today to a new model: a shared position of Editor-in-Chief, with one editor representing

the University of Louisville community and one editor representing the global community. The goals of the *Journal* are not changing, but the new leadership will bring a new and fresh perspective. It is with great pleasure that I present the two new Editors-in-Chief, Dr. Forest Arnold and Dr. Jose Bordon. In their companion editorial, the new Editors-in-Chief will describe the new and exciting ways in which the *Journal* will continue this journey to facilitate the dissemination of new knowledge in the area of respiratory infections.

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FOUNDING EDITOR-IN-CHIEF





Figure 1. Number of article downloads from the *Journal of Respiratory Infections* 2017–2021.

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