

Editor's Report 2006

Submission and Review Statistics for 2006

The *JID* received a total of 835 unsolicited manuscripts for review from January 1 to December 31, 2006, compared with 781 in that same time period in 2005 (a 7% difference) (Figures 1 and 2; Table 1). This does not meet the number of submissions we originally projected based on submissions over the first 6 months of 2006, but we find that the journal has experienced a gradual upward trend in submissions throughout this editorial term.

The average time from submission to first decision is 32 days. The acceptance rate for manuscripts submitted in 2005 was 49%; we reduced that to 45% for 2006.

Publication Statistics for 2006

In 2006, the journal's page allotment was 2,700, which includes all published material. We used the entire page budget for the year, with no overage. We have maintained a page allotment of 2,700 for 2007 and for 2008.

The *JID* published four supplement issues in 2006: three meeting abstract issues (SID, ESDR, European Association of Dermato-Oncology) and one peer-reviewed supplement, the Montagna Symposium on the Biology of Skin, which was published in *JID* Symposium Proceedings in September.

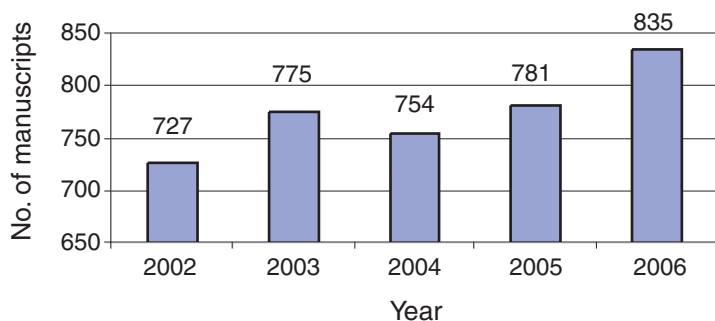


Figure 1. Unsolicited submissions, 2002–2006.

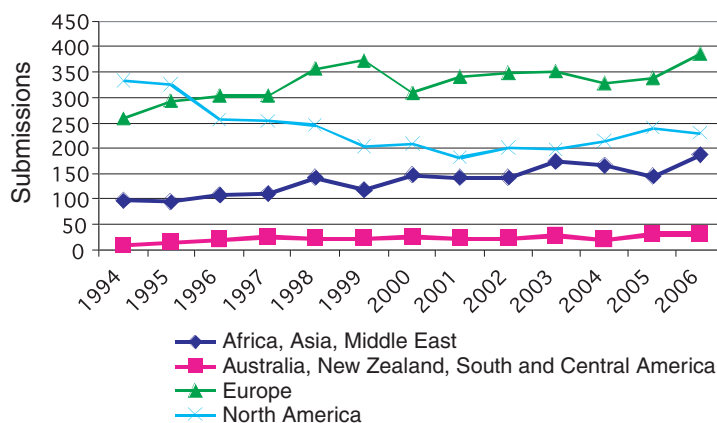


Figure 2. Submissions by region.

Publication Schedule

JID has been mailing on time: the 15th of the month prior to the cover date (e.g., the March 2006 issue was mailed on February 15, 2006). Articles are published online and indexed before print, and online publication may precede print by as much as 3 months. (The average time from acceptance to print publication for articles published in 2006 was 133 days, whereas the average time from acceptance to advance online publication was 72 days.) Despite the timeliness of our production schedule, the lag time from acceptance to print publication of articles has been increasing. Advance online publication of articles will always allow the science to be available to readers in a timely

fashion, and we have purposefully used our allowable page budget overage in the first half of 2007 in order to decrease our backlog.

Milestones in Dermatology

The first installment of the “*JID* Milestones in Dermatology” is now online. An online-only feature, “Milestones” highlights groundbreaking articles in various fields of dermatology, many published in the *JID*. Our plan is to link these historical articles with current articles on similar content, especially with related Perspectives articles. The end goal is to develop an online chronology of the development of the field of dermatology, which will lead users through major findings published in the journal throughout its history. It will also be useful for educational endeavors of the Societies.

Go to <http://www.nature.com/milestones/skinbio/index.html>, or Google “Milestones in Cutaneous Biology,” to check out the first Milestone, on desmosomes. We are grateful to Andrew Kowalczyk and David Rubenstein for their work in coordinating this portion of the project. The next Milestone will be published this summer: “Basement Membrane Zone,” led by Leena Bruckner-Tuderman.

Table 1. Submissions by Country

Argentina	2
Australia	19
Austria	12
Belgium	11
Brazil	6
Canada	11
Chile	2
China	25
Czech Republic	2
Denmark	14
Finland	4
France	37
Germany	129
Greece	1
Hong Kong	3
Hungary	7
India	2
Israel	8
Italy	31
Japan	96
Korea, Republic of	35
Mexico	5
Netherlands	25
New Zealand	2
Norway	3
Pakistan	2
Poland	2
Romania	1
Singapore	2
South Africa	3
Spain	7
Sweden	19
Switzerland	15
Taiwan	7
Turkey	4
United Kingdom	67
United States	214
Total	835

JID Legacy Project

We have received a cost estimate from Nature Publishing Group for the digitization of back issues of *JID* from 1938 to 1970. Given that researchers infrequently visit libraries, and that most use online journals, we consider this project essential to ensuring that all *JID* content is available and used by scientists worldwide. Articles will be searchable by content in the title and authors' names but not by content within the article (because the article will be a PDF and not in XML). To complete this project, we will be asking for donations of complete collections of *JID* from society members. Because issues will be de-spined before scanning, we expect that they will be destroyed in the scanning process. We anticipate using *JID* development funds allotted to the Society by NPG in our contract to pay for this project. The project should take 6 months to complete.

Meeting Report for SID 2007 Meeting

We have secured the technical writer for "Editors' Picks," Heather Yarnall Schultz, PhD, to write a Meeting Report for the SID 2007 Annual Meeting, which will highlight major lectures and other sessions. We will offer this meeting report to other journals (*BJD* and *JAAD* have already expressed interest; we also hope to include the Japanese and Chinese journals) in order to alert more researchers and potential members to the events of the Annual Meeting.

Montagna Symposium on the Biology of Skin

The Montagna Symposium on the Biology of Skin (MSBS) organizers have not received renewed funding for the publication of a separate issue containing the MSBS proceedings, but the Journal invited presenters to submit their papers from this meeting for publication in the Journal at no cost.

As of the writing of this report, we have received only 6 of a potential 23 submissions. We will attempt to incorporate the review articles resulting from the meeting into the Perspectives Series, while papers reporting original data will be published as original articles. All articles from the MSBS that are accepted for publication will be designated with a footnote to indicate this, and they may bear an MSBS logo of some sort. We are meeting with the organizers, Molly Kulesz-Martin and Jackie Bickenbach, to discuss how we may encourage greater submission rates by next year's presenters.

Editor Transition

The current editorial team has been meeting regularly with the incoming editor, Dr. Paul Bergstresser, to plan the future of items such as Perspectives, Milestones, and Editorials, which require much advance planning. The June 2007 issue featured Dr. Bergstresser's first editorial and the new journal masthead. Details are available in Dr. Bergstresser's report to the Board.

In Conclusion

We are grateful to the Editorial Board for its continued support of the Journal and for lending us their considerable expertise and judgment. Russ Hall's leadership in the development and management of the Perspectives Series and the Milestones project have been indispensable, as have his efforts in managing the peer review of immunology submissions. We are grateful to the Board of Directors for its support of the Editor's goals. We have been honored to serve the Society and the Journal throughout this editorial term.

Respectfully submitted,
Lowell A. Goldsmith, MD, MPH, Editor
Elizabeth Blalock, Managing Editor