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Editorial

EuPA Open Proteomics beyond 2013

The holiday season is typically a time to relax and unwind, a time to look back and say “Thank you!”, a time to look forward.

I realize that by the time this editorial gets published, our relaxing and unwinding period together with family and friends will be in the past, and we’ll probably find each other back to work with our batteries recharged and full of good intentions for the New Year.

Looking back

I want to share my reflections with you on the past year, reminiscing about the first nine months in which *EuPA Open Proteomics* (EUPROT), the new journal of the European Proteomics Association (EuPA), saw the light.

The editorial board of EUPROT has had plenty of challenges: getting acquainted with the Elsevier electronic editorial submission system and finding good reviewers within an acceptable timeframe to try and meet the ambitious goals of both rapid and high quality manuscript processing. We wholeheartedly appreciate the patience from all the authors and reviewers as we all learned how to run a new journal.

I want to thank the many reviewers who, often in complete anonymity and entirely voluntarily, did their utmost to meet the demands of a high quality Elsevier scientific title. Together with a great team of enthusiastic associate as well as guest editors, and the competent support by the Elsevier back office, both in Amsterdam, Boston, Ireland, and India, they form the very core of the high quality peer reviewed journal, *EUPROT* is growing to be. Each and every one have given a great piece of their energy to get the journal to where it is to date. On behalf of the entire *EUPROT* editorial board, I want to express our deepest gratitude to all of them. Looking back, I believe we may be proud of our joint achievement so far. *EuPA Open Proteomics* is definitely in the air, and flying.

Looking forward

Even more importantly, I want to communicate our future vision for EUPROT. How will we make sure that our journal maintains its spirit and momentum in the year (s) to come? This is not as evident as it may seem. For instance, the Open Access publishing model, although principally embraced by most, if not all, modern scientists, is yet a concept which needs to mature in the heads of many. Authors are still adjusting to the idea of paying for article processing charges. We are presently experiencing a challenging transition period, in which a new balance is being established between subscription based and open access journals. Personally I am convinced that open access will prevail as one of the important publishing models of the future. Also science funding agencies have realized this, and newly granted modern project applications now invariably contain an investment proposal section to budget for publication charges.

In 2014, you will notice that various EuPA initiatives will be reflected in several special sections of EUPROT. A first thematic special section of the journal is dedicated to the proteomics subdiscipline, *Peptidomics*. Other thematic issues are being planned. Later in the spring we will have special sections devoted to the past EuPA2013 annual meeting in St. Malo (Bretagne, France) as well as to the last ‘PathProt’ (PathProt6) meeting in Oeiras (Portugal). Passionate guest editors are already working eagerly on these sections.

Also, a section of the journal is designated for *EuPA Communications* and another to the *EuPA Company Club*. Always in line with the mission of EuPA, ‘strengthening and promoting fundamental proteomics research and applications across national borders’, all journal sections will be aimed at international proteomics scientists worldwide, young and old, academic and industrial.

EUPROT's mission to share proteomics knowledge and educate the next generation of proteomics scientists, perfectly aligns with the vision of EuPA and many of its members, both National Proteomics Societies as well as Proteomics Companies. I, therefore, am persuaded that we can rely on the continued support and commitment of all EuPA members, so that *EuPA Open Proteomics* will continue to fly in 2014 and beyond. We are confident in the bright future which lies ahead of EuPA Open Proteomics, and which will start in 2014. On behalf of the complete EUPROT team, we wish you all a very happy and successful New Year.

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2212-9685

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<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.euprot.2013.12.001>