

A Debt to Pay Off

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Historically, our Association has relentlessly and courageously sought for a high quality scientific level that matches the standards required by the international medical community. Its founding fathers led the way. They have placed Argentinian Hand Surgery in a prime position worldwide, by means of work and talent.

However, since its creation in 1974, there has been only one scientific journal published by the Asociación Argentina de Cirugía de la Mano [*Argentinian Association of Hand Surgery*]. It was published in that decade, and the project was discontinued after the publishing of its second issue, due to many different reasons. Ever since, our Association has not had an instrument of dissemination to canalize the scientific concerns of our members. This objective, which constitutes the very essence of medical practice and exercise, is now starting to become a reality.

Upon the initiative proposed by the Steering Committee—lead by its President, Dr. Enrique Pereira— and the serious and responsible work of the Editorial Committee—a team of young specialists—, the creation of a publication of our own has been formalized. This cancels an old debt of our Association and constitutes a historical landmark in the life of AACM.

The new journal will be issued, in its first stages, through the Journal of Asociación Argentina de Ortopedia y Traumatología [*Argentinian Association of Orthopaedics and Traumatology*], an organization of great relevance and impact in Latin America. This is a unique opportunity, which must encourage us to engage in a selfless and honest exercise of medical publishing and dissemination. Extending the Journal's influence and providing it with the highest editorial quality relies upon us, because we are capable of doing so!

I am very proud and, above all, thankful for my designation as guest editor at our second issue. I would like to acknowledge the committed and implacable work of each member of the Editorial Committee. I would also like to thank each one of the authors who participated in the different sections of the Journal and delivered their valuable work in good time and in an appropriate manner.

Our Association, its history and its qualified scientific relevance worldwide fully deserved what we have achieved today with great effort and dedication. With this, the Pioneers of Hand Surgery in Argentina have been honored as they deserved. Many of them have been our own mentors and have put things in place. Congratulations to everyone on the excellent work you have done!

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