

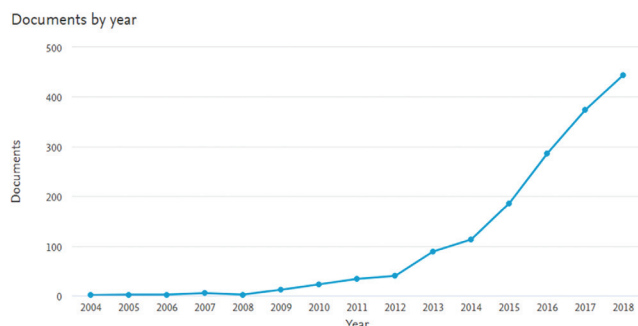
Call for special issues

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The idea of bioprinting was conceived more than a decade ago by a small circle of thought leaders in tissue engineering and three-dimensional (3D) printing. The concept gained a slow recognition initially but rapidly spread with the advent of new 3D printing materials and processes. The exponential growth of scientific publications in the past years is remarkable. This uptrend coincides with an increased number of submissions to the journal. It is a positive signal that we should keep our fingers crossed on the evaluation of the International Journal of Bioprinting for acceptance into scientific citation index around the fourth quarter of this year.



Data source: Scopus

In this July issue, 10 articles are covered. The topics range from the development of new bioinks^[1-5] to new bioprinters such as microfluidics-based printers^[6,7] and high precision inkjet printer^[8], as well as *in vitro* 3D tissue models for tissue engineering^[9,10].

Meanwhile, we have planned to enhance the global coverage of bioprinting research specifically in the USA and Asia. This will increase the total number of publications in 2019 by more than 50%, totaling between 30 and 40 articles. Hereby, I sincerely thank Professor Leu and Professor Fuh for their precious time and kind support in editing the following special issues respectively:

1. Special Issue: Bioprinting in the USA (Guest Editor: Professor Ming Leu, Guest Editorial Assistant: Dr. Krishna Kolan)

2. Special Issue: Bioprinting in Asia (Guest Editor: Professor Jerry Fuh, Guest Editorial Assistant: Dr. Sanjairaj Vijayavenkataraman).

On a separate note, I have moved to Singapore University of Technology and Design to pursue my personal goals. However, this will not affect my commitment and responsibilities to the journal. Instead, I see only more and more opportunities brought by this new endeavor. Please do write to my new email address (cheekai_chua@sutd.edu.sg) for matters related to the journal.

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