EDITORIAL



Journal of Perinatology Editorial Updates 2021

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Editorial Board members are the engines that make biomedical research journals run. They provide timely, expert manuscript reviews, ensuring the quality of papers published in the journal. They provide commentary in their areas of expertise, often associated with a manuscript they have reviewed. Editorial Board members also act as ambassadors for the journal, soliciting and contributing high-quality manuscripts. They provide ideas for review articles and recommend expert authors, they identify trends in the field and they provide suggestions to improve the journal. These observations are true for members of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Perinatology. Collectively, the efforts of Journal of Perinatology Editorial Board members have resulted in a quadrupling of the number of new articles received annually over the past ten years, identified important manuscripts for publication, provided insightful commentary and reviews on important

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topics, and contributed to dramatic decreases in time to first decision of reviewed articles.

The Journal of Perinatology continues to evolve with the field of medical publishing. Following Springer/Nature, the Journal's publisher, and many other medical biomedical journals, the Journal is moving to a term-based model of Editorial Board appointment. As of January 1, 2021, membership on the Journal of Perinatology Editorial Board will be via up to 5-year appointments, with previous board members rotating off and new members joining each year. An important goal going forward is increasing diversity of the Editorial Board, including gender, race, ethnic, and geographic diversity, while maintaining a board with a wide range of expertise.

As part of this change in Board membership, a fantastic group of new members are joining the Editorial Board this year. They include Sofia Aliaga, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC, USA; Susan Aucott, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, USA; Carl Backes, Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio, USA; Wanda Barfield, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta Georgia, USA; Catherine Buck, Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA; Shanna Cox, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA, USA; Eugene Dempsey, University College Cork, Ireland; Annie Dude, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA; Sarah Kunz, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA; Afif El Khuffash, Royal College of Surgeons, Dublin, Ireland; Satyan Lakshmintusimha, University of California, Davis, Davis, CA, USA; Philip Levy, Boston Children's Hospital, Boston, MA, USA; Dror Mandel, Sackler University, Tel Aviv, Israel; Paolo Manzoni, University Hospital Degli Infermi, Biella, Italy; Mark Mercurio, Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA; Heidi Murphy, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC, USA; David Paul, Sidney Kimmel Medical College at TJU, Newark, DE, USA; Ashish Premkumar, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL, USA; Renate Savich, University of Mississippi, Jackson, MI, USA; Arvind Sehgal, Monash University, Melbourne,

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Fig. 1 Mentor and Mentee Pairs in the *Journal of Perinatology*, the Editorial Board Mentoring InitiaTive, EDIT. Left Panels. Harvard Medical School. Top. John Zupancic. Bottom. Sarah Kuhn. Center

Australia; Seetha Shankaran, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, USA; Gautham Suresh, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX, USA; Sarah Taylor, Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA; John Zupancic, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA. We look forward to their contributions to the Journal.

A number of long-serving members will be rotating off the Editorial Board this year. They include Keith Barrington, l'Université de Montréal, Montreal, CA; Jatinder Bhatia, Georgia Regents University, Augusta, GA, USA; Aaron Caughey, Oregon Health Sciences University, Portland, OR, USA; Gary Darmstadt, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, USA; Arthur Eidelman, Shaare Zedek Medical Center, Jerusalem, Israel; Philip Gordon, Sacred Heart Women's and Infant's Hospital, Pensacola, FL, USA; Diane Holditch-Davis, Duke University, Durham, NC; Robert Kopotic, CAS Medical Systems, Jamul, CA, USA; Matthew Laughon, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC, USA; Karen Morin, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI, USA: John Paris, Boston College, Boston, MA, USA; Joann Prause, University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA, USA; Jayant Shenai, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, USA; Joseph Spinnato, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, USA; Michele Walsh, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH, USA. We would like to thank these members for their many years of service to the Journal of Perinatology as well as their many contributions to the care and support of mothers and their babies, their families, and their care

Panels. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Top. Wanda Barfield. Bottom. Shana Cox. Right Panels. Yale University. Top. Sarah Taylor. Bottom. Catherine Buck.

givers. We look forward to their continued support of the *Journal*.

We also would like to acknowledge and thank our many reviewers who contributed their valuable time and expertise to the *Journal of Perinatology* in 2020 (Attached). A total of 1377 reviews were completed in 2020 by 635 reviewers. Their tireless and largely unseen work is always appreciated, but even more so during the many challenges of 2020.

The new year also brings a new program to the Journal of Perinatology, EDIT, the Editorial BoarD Mentoring InitiaTive, a program developed in conjunction with the American Academy of Pediatrics Section on Neonatal/ Perinatal Medicine. In this program, together, a senior mentor and an early career faculty member or trainee, are appointed to the Journal's Editorial Board. Manuscripts are assigned to both, who together produce a single review. In addition, during their time on the Editorial Board, trainees are provided with educational materials on peer review. The goal of EDIT is to combine mentoring with real-world experience in the peer review and publishing arenas. We are excited to announce our first three mentor-mentee EDIT pairs (Figure 1), Drs. John Zupancic and Sarah Kunz, Drs. Wanda Barfield and Shana Cox, and Drs. Sarah Taylor and Caty Buck.

Dr. John Zupancic is Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School, and Associate Chief of Neonatology at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston. Dr. Zupancic served as Chair of the Executive Committee, Section on Perinatal Pediatrics Executive Committee, American Academy of Pediatrics, from 2016 to 2018. He is a recognized expert in health sciences research. Dr. Zupancic's mentee is Dr. Sarah Kunz. Dr. Kunz is an Instructor in Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School, and a staff neonatologist at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

Dr. Wanda Barfield is Director, Division of Reproductive Health, National Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, MD, and Adjunct Professor of Pediatrics at Emory University. She is a recognized expert in reproductive, maternal, perinatal, and infant health domestically and globally through the effective use of surveillance and research; evidencebased clinical and programmatic interventions; and policy at the population level. Dr. Barfield's mentee is Dr. Shana Cox. Dr. Cox is Associate Director for Science in the Division of Reproductive Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta.

Dr. Sarah Taylor is Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Yale University School of Medicine, and Director of Neonatal Research at Yale New Haven Children's Hospital in New Haven. She is a recognized expert in infant nutrition and breastfeeding medicine. Dr. Taylor's mentee is Dr. Catherine Buck. Dr. Buck is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Yale University School of Medicine, and a staff neonatologist at Yale New Haven Children's Hospital.

These are exciting times at the Journal. The Journal will be migrating to a new, modern web interface this year that will improve the experience for readers, authors, reviewers, and editorial staff. In September, the Journal will be celebrating its fortieth anniversary. An exciting and informative bundle of articles on diversity, equity, and inclusion in perinatal medicine was published in the first two editions this year. We will begin publishing a series of articles from the Organization of Neonatal Perinatal Training Program Directors (ONPTD) on neonatology fellowship training. Upcoming Review and Perspective article topics include the impact of maternal obesity on childhood neurodevelopment, recent advances in pathophysiology and management of transient tachypnea of the newborn, perinatal-neonatal perspectives on COVID-19, practical approaches to sedation and analgesia in the newborn, and an approach to critical decision-making in neonatology and pediatrics. Quality improvement (QI) will continue to be focal point for the Journal. We will publish QI articles each month, including an upcoming practical guide to publishing a quality improvement paper. We welcome suggestions for topics from readers. Visit the Journal's website at https://www.nature.com/jp/ or contact us at jperinatol@us. nature.com.

Acknowledgement of Journal of Perinatology Manuscript Reviewers 2020

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