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Editorial

A CALL TO DUTY

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As many of you have known for a couple of years, I have had a hard time keeping up with the increasing work required as editor-in-chief of **JEPonline**. This year revealed this difficulty, and it became obvious that it was time to hand over the editor-in-chief responsibility to someone new.

This development was very problematic, as my initial thoughts on this dilemma consisted of; who would volunteer to commit the energy and time needed to do this job? Is this the end of **JEPonline**? After all, one thing ASEP has revealed since 1998 is that there is little Ph.D. support for the professional development of exercise physiology within the U.S.

Given that I had become terribly behind in processing manuscript reviews, I had to inform all submitters of this development so that manuscripts could be withdrawn. I also offered the possibility for a new editor-in-chief to be found, and that once this happened manuscripts and **JEPonline** could continue to flourish.

Thankfully, notification to all submitters produced a flurry of support for my work and the need for **JEPonline** to remain an option for research, review and commentary publication for exercise physiologists, both in the U.S. and internationally. Such support led to numerous offers of assistance, as well as a life saving offer for staffing a new editor-in-chief from Jon Linderman and his departmental chair, Paul Vanderburgh from the University of Dayton. This was the life vest that **JEPonline** needed, and to be honest, that I did not think would happen.

Thanks to Jon, ASEP can continue to support **JEPonline** and the research needs of exercise physiologists. Thanks to Jon, the role of **JEPonline** in scientific peer review can be retained, with the message

that unbiased, free and open access to research is in the best interests of science and exercise physiology. I will be working with Jon to place **JEPonline** back on a bi-monthly publication track, and to pursue applications for the inclusion of **JEPonline** into electronic databases such as Pub Med. Yes, 2007 is to be a big year for **JEPonline**.

I am remaining managing editor, and will be responsible for posting issues to the web. This December, 2006 issue is evidence of a revitalized **JEPonline**, and I encourage all exercise physiologists to support our work. It is with your support that **JEPonline** can continue to grow.

Thank you for your support.

Rob Robergs
Managing Editor, **JEPonline**