

## ONWARD AND UPWARD

The future is not fixed, but is malleable to be shaped as we desire. The future turns out to be something that we make, instead of find. We should never wait for the arrival of the future, it is here, it is the next sentence, it is the next best guess, it is now.

In the scientific and medical publishing industry, digital technologies have made tremendous advances in a comparatively brief time. Many additional opportunities for conducting research and publishing research results have become available, all of which have led to many changes in the scientific and medical publishing field. Manuscripts are now reviewed in shorter periods of time. My decision to publish only online in 2012 is an example of these changes, and the decision to switch to only open access publishing in 2017 is another example of *International Surgery* remaining in the vanguard of a rapidly changing scientific and medical publishing industry.

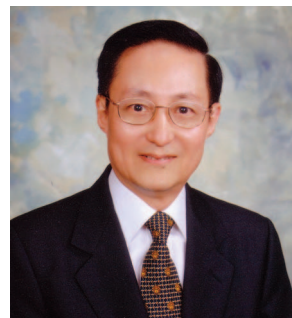
We will continue to shape the future of *International Surgery* and will work closely with our publisher to continuously improve the peer review and publishing process for *International Surgery*. We will continue to improve the website for *International*

*Surgery* and incorporate all other applicable tools to better serve authors of submitted manuscripts.

I now share some exciting news with you. This calendar year is the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of *International Surgery* being in existence and being a part of the global scientific and medical publishing community. When one considers 80 years, one realizes how important such an anniversary truly is. Eighty years is longer than many people live, longer than many institutions have been in existence. Celebrating the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *International Surgery* is not only appropriate, but is also a factual testimony of the importance of the official journal of the International College of Surgeons, *International Surgery*. We look forward to the next 80 years of serving our authors and the global research community.

As your Editor-in-Chief, I invite your questions and comments.

Sincerely,



Christopher Chen  
Editor-in-Chief  
*International Surgery*