

Dear Readers,

**T**he year 2013 is going to be a very exciting year for the *Medical Student Research Journal* (MSRJ). MSRJ has made great strides in the past 12 months and can look forward to a bright future in the year ahead. We have more than tripled our editorial staff, which now consists of 12 second- through fourth-year medical students. Our current efforts to recruit first-year students looks like it will almost double our staff size, getting our editorial board to around 20 students. By the end of 2013, we aim to have a 30-member editorial board.

In the past months, with the assistance of a graphic designer, our layouts and logo have undergone a 'facelift', providing the journal with a professional look going forward. A new MSRJ website, which will hopefully help to streamline the editing process and enable us to review papers more efficiently and with greater accuracy, is under development.

It is with great pleasure we announce that MSRJ is joining hands with four other international student journals in creating the International Medical Student Journalism Award. The MSRJ in addition to the *Scottish Universities Medical Journal*, *Res Medico*, *Trinity Medical Student Journal* and the *Journal of the Asian Medical Student Association* will submit one article each from their yearly publications. The articles will be evaluated by a panel of independent judges. To be considered for this award, one's article needs to be published in any of the aforementioned journals.

We always have opportunities for new student reviewers. The MSRJ has an online reviewer training protocol which enables any currently enrolled medical student, anywhere in the world, to act as a reviewer for us. If you are interested in being a reviewer with us, please visit [www.msrb.org/reviewers](http://www.msrb.org/reviewers).

Thank you for reading, and we wish you all the very best in 2013. Our next issue is expected in May 2013, and we are currently accepting papers for the same. If you wish to contribute, please visit [www.msrb.org](http://www.msrb.org) and follow the submission instructions.

All the best,



Chad Klochko, M.S.  
Executive Editor, MSRJ 2012–2013



David Ortiz  
Executive Editor, MSRJ 2012–2013