

## Expanding the Frontiers of Clinical Sleep Medicine

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*J Clin Sleep Med 2005;1(1):9*

As sleep medicine practitioners and researchers, we are in the midst of a very exciting time in our professional field. Building on the foundation set by our past successes, including recognition as an independent medical sub-specialty by the Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education and the anticipated establishment of a board-certification examination administered by the American Board of Medical Specialties, we anticipate several exciting challenges and opportunities ahead. Moreover, based on the growth of AASM membership and the APSS Annual Meeting, we recognize the increasing demand for applied sleep science and sleep medicine research and information. This evolution of our membership and the field necessitates comprehensive and relevant resources to support this advancement and growth.

The AASM Board of Directors identified the changing needs of our members and the growth of the field as an opportunity to make available relevant research, news and information not being published elsewhere. The AASM introduces the *Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine* as a forum for the dissemination of studies, reports, commentary and debate that have direct applicability to practitioners and the clinical practice of sleep medicine.

We believe *JCSM* will be a significant asset to sleep medicine clinicians and practitioners in allied medical fields seeking compelling research that might not be published in other journals or not readily available to the scientific community. Because we recognize the importance of this research and information to our members and are committed to providing our members with the best resources, we are offering a subscription to the *JCSM* as a free member benefit.

The planning, development, coordination and production of a new journal is not simple, and we are fortunate to have an experienced, responsive and efficient Editor in Stuart Quan, MD. A distinguished scientist and clinician as well as recognized leader in the sleep medicine field, Dr. Quan has ably guided the *JCSM* from its conceptual stages to this first issue and will ensure a high-quality publication. We are fortunate to have him at the helm of the *JCSM* and thank him for his commitment and the time he is devoting to the journal.

The *JCSM* is also not possible without the capable staff at the AASM national office. From creating proposals, securing ISSN numbers, creating budgets and monitoring deadlines to designing the journal, managing the submission process, developing Web sites and capabilities and directing the day-to-day operations of the *JCSM*, every member of the national office staff is integral to

the success of the *JCSM*, and we thank them for their hard work and dedication.

We welcome the *JCSM* as a new chapter to the evolution of the AASM and the sleep medicine field. As the field continues to grow, the *JCSM* will undoubtedly be a valuable resource for you and your professional practice, and we will continue to provide you with the most timely and essential information as well as identify ways to improve the journal. Lastly, we encourage you to submit original material for publication as your discoveries and conclusions drive the future of sleep medicine.