

The editorship of the *Journal of Nuclear Medicine* is a challenging post accepted not only with enthusiasm but also with an awareness of the heavy responsibility entailed. I would like to express my appreciation to the members of the Society of Nuclear Medicine who have placed their confidence in me and to assure our membership that I will expend constant effort to continue the development of the *Journal* as the deliberative and creative voice of our specialty. Although the editor must assume the directorship of the *Journal* and the responsibility for carrying out the editorial policies of the Society of Nuclear Medicine, the success of the *Journal* depends on the cooperation of the many members who contribute directly and indirectly.

The Journal of Nuclear Medicine must reflect the diverse interests of the Society's membership and be relevant to the various disciplines within nuclear medicine in order to maintain it as a rigorous and intellectual publication. I plan to implement certain general policies that will provide a scientific communication for the basic scientists, clinical scientists, and practicing clinicians: a structured editorial staff that specifies responsibilities for each broad category of scientific interest; review policies that insure continuing improvement in manuscript quality; organization of the *Journal's* contents to facilitate ease of review by the reader; encouragement of submission of manuscripts; and timely additions to the *Journal's* contents, such as abstracts from the literature.

I would like to express the gratitude from the membership of the Society of Nuclear Medicine to our retiring editor, Belton Burrows, M.D. He has directed the *Journal* through a period of extensive growth, both in quality and quantity. His stewardship has left its mark. Our sincerest thanks go to Dr. Burrows and his staff for their unselfish efforts in our behalf.

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