
A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

THE JOURNAL OF BIOMEDICAL OPTICS— THE FIRST YEARS

The *Journal of Biomedical Optics* started in January 1996, with the goal of becoming the leading journal in the biomedical applications of optics technology. While it is often difficult to start a new journal, the *JBO* has been so successful that it virtually started itself. Since its inception, the *Journal of Biomedical Optics* has been published on time, and has continued to receive a good number of submitted manuscripts. Such a record is unusual for a new journal. Remarkably, as of January 1999, the *Journal of Biomedical Optics* had more than 1,600 subscribers. When contacted by SPIE in 1994, it was clear to me that the *JBO* was a needed journal. I agreed to serve as Editor-in-Chief for the *JBO* for a limited period of time with the goal of establishing this journal. This goal has been achieved and the time has come to pass the *JBO* to new leadership.

Effective July 1, 1999, Dr. Bruce Tromberg from the Beckman Laser Institute will assume the role as Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Biomedical Optics*. I am most pleased by this selection and by Dr. Tromberg's willingness to accept this responsibility. Dr. Tromberg brings great breadth to the *JBO* from his broad expertise in the medical application of optics.

At this time, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of you who have contributed to the Journal, the Editorial Board members, the former Managing Editor, Mr. Mohan Nair, individuals at SPIE, and my assistant Ms. Mary Rosenfeld, for all of your efforts which allowed the *Journal of Biomedical Optics* to be a success. I have no doubt that the *JBO* will continue its remarkable growth and will retain its current position as the premier journal in medical optics.

DR. BRUCE TROMBERG, NEW EDITOR-IN- CHIEF OF THE JOURNAL OF BIOMEDICAL OPTICS

Dr. Tromberg is an Associate Professor at the University of California, Irvine, with joint appointments in the College of Medicine (Physiology and Biophysics) and School of Engineering (Electrical and Computer Engineering). He is Director of the Laser Microbeam and Medical Program (LAMMP), a National Institutes of Health Biotechnology Resource Center at the Beckman Laser Institute and Medical Clinic. Dr. Tromberg also directs the Photomedicine Program at

UC Irvine's Chao Cancer Center, one of about 30 cancer centers in the United States designated as "comprehensive" by the National Cancer Institute.

Dr. Tromberg completed his undergraduate training in chemistry and psychology at Vanderbilt University in 1979. He began a joint program between the University of Tennessee and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory as an Oak Ridge Associated Universities Fellow, receiving M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in chemistry in 1988 for his work on optical fiber sensors. Dr. Tromberg was a Hewitt Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow in Photomedicine at the Beckman Laser Institute until December 1989 where he contributed to the development of methods for real-time monitoring of tissue oxygen consumption during photodynamic therapy. He has been a member of the Beckman Institute faculty since January 1990 where he has established research programs in non-invasive, quantitative tissue spectroscopy (photon migration), laser microscopy, and gynecologic applications of photodynamic therapy. Dr. Tromberg received a visiting faculty appointment at the Institute of Applied Optics, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL), Lausanne, in 1998 and serves on Ph.D. committees in biomedical optics at the University of Pennsylvania, the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, and the University of Lund.

Dr. Tromberg's current research interests include the development of optical techniques for monitoring physiology in tissues and cells, optical transport in tissue, and photodynamic therapy. He has published over 100 papers in the field of biomedical optics, holds 5 patents, and is the recipient of Whitaker Foundation and NIH young investigator awards for his contributions to frequency-domain photon-migration. Dr. Tromberg has served on the editorial board of the *Journal of Biomedical Optics* as one of the founding members, and has been guest editor for topical issues of *Applied Optics*, the *Journal of the Optical Society of America A*, *Medical Physics*, and *Optical Engineering*. He is a member of the joint National Cancer Institute-Office of Women's Health taskforce on functional imaging in cancer, serves on the Beckman Foundation Grants Advisory Council, and is a past co-chair of the Engineering Foundation Meeting on Optical Technologies in Medicine and Surgery.

Dr. Tromberg assumes the role as Editor-in-Chief on July 1, 1999, and will carry the *Journal of Biomedical Optics* forward to its next level of success.

Joseph R. Lakowicz