

should pass on to your confreres..." An article from 1965 discussed the physician's role in medicare legislation. In 1966, an article on the use of computers in medicine predicted with great accuracy the use of these machines, stating "...it is not farfetched to plan on having an electric console in the medical school or hospital that will print on high speed tape the requested summary of a medical article stored in the memory of a computer in a distant central library". By that year, circulation had reached 2500 and the distribution to the alumni became international.

Printing of the *Journal* was stopped in 1969. The student society, headed by President R Stewart, was asked to find funding for the *Journal* as advertising revenue was insufficient to continue publication of the journal. The decision to cease publication was, we are told, purely financial. The *Journal* has remained dormant in the library of Dalhousie Medical School for 26 years.

In 1995 the students, residents, and faculty of Dalhousie medical school have joined together to revive the *Dalhousie Medical Journal* for a second time. This issue is Volume 23, No.1. The aims of the *Journal* are much the same as the *Journal* of the past: To provide an outlet for the dissemination of papers on the basic and clinical aspects of medicine, surgery, medical education, medicolegal affairs, health care delivery, the history of medicine, public health, and articles concerned with the humane aspects of medicine; to provide a forum for medically related papers, particularly those of special significance to Atlantic Canada; to promote an interest in medical research amongst students, especially those in Atlantic Canada; and to provide individuals interested in the health sciences with the opportunity to become involved with the process of producing a scientific journal.

The challenge for the future is evident. As was so eloquently stated in the 1941 editorial comment "Other men [and women] of equal brilliance and merit have followed in the footsteps of the founders [of the *Journal*] and these have upheld the principles and standards which are the basis of the success of the publication; let us hope that this success will continue in the present and future years. It must be realized, however, that the future of the *Journal* lies not alone in the hands of a few students selected from various classes; it is the responsibility of every undergraduate in the Medical School..." The editorial board of the current journal includes health science students, residents, and undergraduate medical students. The current editorial board hopes that the *Journal* will enjoy future support from the medical community as it did in the past.

This *Journal* is dedicated to those who worked to prepare the *Journal* in the past. Particularly, we wish to acknowledge the contributions of IR Gold and CB Stewart in founding the original *Dalhousie Medical Journal*.

F Hassard, R Seth, and C Naugler, Nov. 1995

Comments and letters, addressed to the editor at the publication office, are welcome.

Dear Editor,

The renewal of publication of the *Dalhousie Medical Journal* is an accomplishment of which all of those students involved can be extremely proud. Working together as a team, students from all years have realized an achievement which will prove of great benefit to the Dalhousie Faculty of Medicine and the health care community of Maritime Canada. This student run publication will provide an opportunity for those in the early stages of their careers to demonstrate their work to others. The *Journal* will also be allow faculty involved with student research and writing of review papers to recognize and promote achievement through working with students to publish their efforts. Not least importantly, the *Journal* will serve as a forum for the expression of opinion, enhancing debate and discussion in our Faculty. I have no doubt that many of those who go on to distinguished careers as physicians and researchers will later recall that their beginnings in publication were with the *Dalhousie Medical Journal*.

I am very impressed with the dedication which has been demonstrated in making the *Journal* a reality. The *Journal* is well organized, capable of credible peer review, and has been established and structured so as to give roles to students at all stages of training, allowing for its handing over to successive generations. This final point is an extremely important one, since sustainability of the *Journal* is, of course, the next challenge.

Congratulations on an important achievement.

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