



Transition of Editor-in-Chief Duties at *Mayo Clinic Proceedings*

We wish to announce the transition of Editor-in-Chief (EIC) duties at *Mayo Clinic Proceedings* (MCP).

With the publication of this April 2017 issue, Karl A. Nath, MBChB, will assume the administrative responsibilities of EIC, and William L. Lanier, MD, will become Emeritus EIC. Dr Nath will be the eighth physician to serve as *Proceedings* EIC since the reorganization of Journal leadership in 1964.¹

Dr Nath received his medical degree from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, and was trained in internal medicine and nephrology at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. He joined the Mayo Clinic faculty in 1996 as a nephrologist and professor of medicine. Dr Nath is an active researcher in the pathobiology of kidney disease and is the recipient of grants from the National Institutes of Health. He has served for the past 16 years as program director of Mayo Clinic's Clinician-Investigator Training Program, the principal research training program within the Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education. Dr Nath was appointed EIC of the *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology* (JASN) in July 2013 and stepped down from the JASN editorship, effective February 28, 2017, to assume his new role as EIC of the *Proceedings*. The period of transition for the *Proceedings* leadership began on March 1, 2017.

Dr Lanier has served as *Mayo Clinic Proceedings*' EIC for the past 18 years, beginning January 1, 1999. During Dr Lanier's term as EIC, MCP introduced changes in Journal content, peer review, and dissemination of information (including through electronic and social media).¹ Additionally, as outlined in a January 2017 editorial, MCP has added a second journal to its publishing enterprise, *Mayo Clinic Proceedings: Innovations, Quality & Outcomes*.² As the new EIC, Dr Nath will be responsible for overseeing and contributing to the management of these ongoing activities, as well as developing (in consultation with the editorial board, publisher, and staff) and

managing new Journal initiatives. Consonant with this plan, the Journal's Manuscript Central/ScholarOne manuscript submission and peer review management system (<https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/mayoclinproc>) has been changed to identify Dr Nath as the administrative EIC for all new manuscript submissions. Dr Lanier will now focus on closing out manuscript files and related activities that began during his tenure.

Inasmuch as there is a phase shift when manuscripts are submitted, accepted, and published in MCP, the majority of content within the print and electronic issues through June 2017 will reflect decision making under the leadership of Dr Lanier and thereafter, progressively under the leadership of Dr Nath. As such, the masthead of the Journal will identify Dr Lanier as the EIC-of-record for articles published through the June 2017 issue, followed by Dr Nath as EIC-of-record beginning with the July 2017 issue. These dates thus differ from the functional administrative dates previously identified.

We both are greatly appreciative of Mayo Clinic, the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science, and many others who engaged in the in-depth process to identify a new EIC for MCP. The activities began with formal study (by a working group, the Search Committee for the Editor-in-Chief of *Mayo Clinic Proceedings*) of the current assets of MCP and assessment of the role that the Journal should and would provide in advancing the care of patients worldwide. On completion of these actions, the search committee (through widely disseminated notices) began recruiting applicants for the position and vetting those applicants through written statements from the candidates followed by formal interviews. As the list of candidates was pared down, the selection process involved formal input from the search committee, the executive dean of the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science, and the president and chief executive officer of Mayo Clinic.

We express our deep appreciation to all who contributed to this process and especially to those who selflessly gave of their time and energy to study the current and future roles of the Journal, explore the highest priority qualities desired in a new EIC, and evaluate the candidates. Equally, we deeply and sincerely thank the candidates who participated in the vetting process.

We will seek a near-seamless transition of leadership during the upcoming months to ensure that the peer review of individual manuscripts and additional activities are promptly and efficiently addressed. During this period, authors, reviewers, and others can assume that information transmitted to one of us will be accessible to both of us.

In the upcoming months, we will each share—in the pages of the Journal—narratives of our reflections and aspirations as they relate to the evolving *Mayo Clinic Proceedings*. Through these and related activities, we confirm our deep and abiding commitment to

the smooth transition of leadership and to the future growth and ascension of *Mayo Clinic Proceedings* as an influential force on the progressive practice of medicine. In the final analysis, it is our desire that this process of evolution use as its beacon the Journal's mission statement: "To promote the best interests of patients by advancing the knowledge and professionalism of the physician community."

William L. Lanier, MD
Emeritus Editor-in-Chief
Karl A. Nath, MBChB
Editor-in-Chief
Mayo Clinic Proceedings

REFERENCES

1. Lanier WL. Celebrating *Mayo Clinic Proceedings*' 90th anniversary: a story of longevity and progression of mission. *Mayo Clin Proc*. 2016;91(1):3-9.
2. Lanier WL, Gerber TC. Expanding the *Mayo Clinic Proceedings* mission: introducing *Mayo Clinic Proceedings: Innovations, Quality & Outcomes (MCP: IQO)*. *Mayo Clin Proc*. 2017;92(1):7-10.