

Into the third decade

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EDITORIAL

INTO THE THIRD DECADE

This first issue of Volume 21, marking the third decade of the *Journal of Biomechanics*, is a mile-stone reflecting changes in editorial structure, procedures and policy.

Most notable among these changes is the retirement of Verne L. Roberts as Co-Editor-in-Chief. If we consider the present age of the Journal as its inauguration into adulthood, then Verne can be seen as one of its parents, who conceived, nurtured and shaped it into a strong, popular and indispensable medium, the prime among its 'peers' in the Biomechanics field. Indeed, if a single monument should be named to symbolize Biomechanics today, this Journal would probably be chosen by a wide margin. We, the inhabitants of the field, owe this primarily to Verne's vision, organisational capabilities, and devotion during 20 years of office. In the first Editorial, Volume 1, Number 1, Verne and his Co-Editor for 12 years, F. Gaynor Evans, stated that: '... this new Journal will provide the mechanism whereby papers pertinent to orthopaedics, dentistry, biomaterials, environmental physiology, and mathematical modeling can all be published in a single journal thus alleviating in part the gap which existed up to now in the publication sources available'. They have realized all they promised, and more. I am happy to announce that Verne will remain involved in an honorary position as 'Founding Editor'.

Verne is succeeded by Richard A. Brand from the University of Iowa, Iowa City. I have known Dick for a number of years, and I believe that a better person for this office could not have been nominated. A part-time practicing orthopaedic surgeon, Dick is probably best known for his many high-quality publications in orthopaedics and biomechanics. A man of culture and a scholar, who has mastered many vocations, he has a life-time commitment to biomechanics research, and a hobby in writing and editing. Dick became a member of the Editorial Board in December 1981, nominated by the American Society of Biomechanics, in which he had served as President. In September 1984 he assumed the newly created position of Book Review Editor for this Journal, in which he served until his present appointment.

Dick and I will collaborate closely on a day-to-day basis, using advanced computer networks. As before, authors are free to choose either of the two Editors when submitting manuscripts. Together we structured the new Editorial Board and the Consultant Panel, and developed new plans, as outlined in the next Editorial.

RIK HUISKES
Co-Editor-in-Chief