

Introducing the New *JAOA* Editorial Team

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Osteopathic medicine is founded on the interrelationships of humans with their environments. These complex interactions both internally and externally drive the science of osteopathic medicine. Osteopathic physicians for generations have recognized that connectivity is the key to health. One focus of our treatments is the manipulation of “connective” tissues to restore health. In today’s world, connectivity is often described in terms of social media and communications. To make the *The Journal of the American Osteopathic Association (JAOA)* the best in scholarly publishing, we need connectivity. The best editors have a broad swath of medical knowledge, understand how research is conducted and disseminated, know the research community, and are connected to our growing profession nationally and internationally. Our new *JAOA* team has all of these qualities.

With this edition, I would like to introduce our new editorial leadership, which is built on a backbone of osteopathic journalistic experience. Michael M. Patterson, PhD, who has been a *JAOA* associate editor for more than 25 years, provides us with his wealth of knowledge, experience, historical perspective, international relationships, and continuity. Dr Patterson will assume a new role as our associate editor for international affairs. Using his international connectivity, he will lead our efforts to bring the best science from our international colleagues to the *JAOA*. Michael A. Seffinger, DO, professor of osteopathic medicine at the Western University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific, who brings his mentorship, journalistic, and leadership experiences, will continue as one of our US associate editors and coeditor of the popular review of osteopathic literature, “The Somatic Connection.”

The first of our 2 newest associate editors is Kendi L. Hensel, DO, PhD, an associate professor at the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and the residency director of osteopathic manipulative medicine at the University of North Texas Health Science Center. As we say at Mayo Clinic, she excels in all 3 shields—patient care, research, and education. She is a federally funded researcher and nationally recognized educator, and she has served in many leadership roles. Dr Hensel is one of the fresh faces of osteopathic medicine and the first female osteopathic physician to become an associate editor of the *JAOA*.

The second new associate editor is Jay H. Shubrook Jr, DO. Dr Shubrook is an associate professor of family medicine at the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine, a current member of the *JAOA*’s editorial advisory board, and a leader in diabetes care, clinical research, and education. He brings not only connectivity but a generalist perspective on diabetes, one of the most important health problems of this century.

Our new team represents the depth and breadth of our profession. We are specialists, generalists, researchers, educators, and osteopathic physicians. We look forward to working with all of you, our readers, to improve *The Journal*. Please join me in welcoming all of these associate editors to the *JAOA*. (doi:10.7556/jaoa.2014.122)

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