

Journal of Physician Assistant Education Report

September 2018

Submitted by Libby Alesbury and David Asprey

Name of Council: JPAE Editorial Advisory Board

Board Members: David Asprey, Trenton Honda, Tami Ritsema, Brenda Quincy, Kristopher Maday, Anthony Miller, Nicole Mortier, and Elizabeth Alesbury (Managing Editor)

Council Charge: The JPAE Editorial Advisory Board is dedicated to publishing scholarly manuscripts germane to PA education and providing a forum for the sharing of ideas and innovations that will enhance the education of PA students.

Key Deliverables:

- Published four issues of the *Journal of Physician Assistant Education* (JPAE) over the past year with a continued emphasis on sound research and higher quality. As the pipeline of submitted manuscripts continues to grow, so does the number of research articles and brief reports in each issue.
- JPAE joined with JAAPA in publishing an online 50th anniversary e-book: *The PA Profession: 50 Years and Counting*, featuring the anniversary articles from both publications. (Links to the e-book are available on the home page of both journals.)
- In 2018, JPAE again published two white papers/articles from PAEA on topics of major interest to the Association: one entitled “Noncognitive Attributes in Physician Assistant Education” by the Presidents Commission (March issue), and the other “A Retrospective Review of Physician Assistant Education Association End of Rotation Examinations” written by the PAEA Examination Development Boards and PAEA Assessment staff (September issue).
- Research/publishing sessions at Education Forum: After the highly successful experiment of introducing these sessions at the 2017 Forum, the journal’s Editorial Advisory Board, along with PAEA’s Research team, again is holding two of these popular “mentoring” sessions at the 2018 Forum. These sessions are geared toward those who are interested in stepping up their research efforts and/or publishing their first article, offering them an opportunity to talk one-on-one with an experienced researcher/author and receive advice specifically tailored to them and their project.
- Impact Factor: After deciding in 2017 that JPAE was a strong candidate, Wolters Kluwer applied for an impact factor, a measure of the frequency with which the average article in a journal has been cited during a particular year. A high impact

factor lends prestige and credibility to an academic journal. Since the process takes two years, if granted (which our representative at Wolters Kluwer expects to be the case), the first impact factor will be available in June 2019.

Highlights:

- Identified three new JPAE Editorial Board members: Trent Honda, Anthony Miller, and Nicole Mortier. Selected new feature editors for Cultural Perspectives (Daytheon Sturges) and for Global Perspectives (Oren Berkowitz).
- Expanded the use of the publish-ahead-of-print feature to get articles published online as soon as they have been finalized and laid out.
- In an effort to increase the quality and consistency of peer reviewing, Editorial Board members created new peer reviewer matrices for the research articles (including abstracts and brief reports) and for special articles.
- The Editorial Board has developed a readership survey that will be administered following the Education Forum to help inform the board about journal usage and preferences associated with its format and content. The last readership survey was done in 2013.