

Editorial

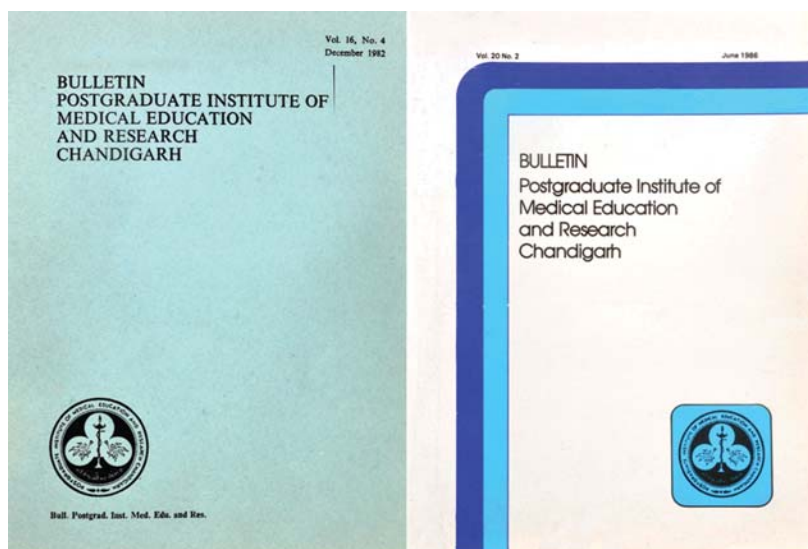
Winds of Change

Any kind of change involves many things; first there is turbulence, as the old order makes way for the new, and new is not always necessarily better. Uneasiness comes next, principally due to a lack of clarity about what the new order brings, and often there is a twinge of wariness and watchfulness from the protagonists and supporters of the new order, to see what the winds of change will blow in.

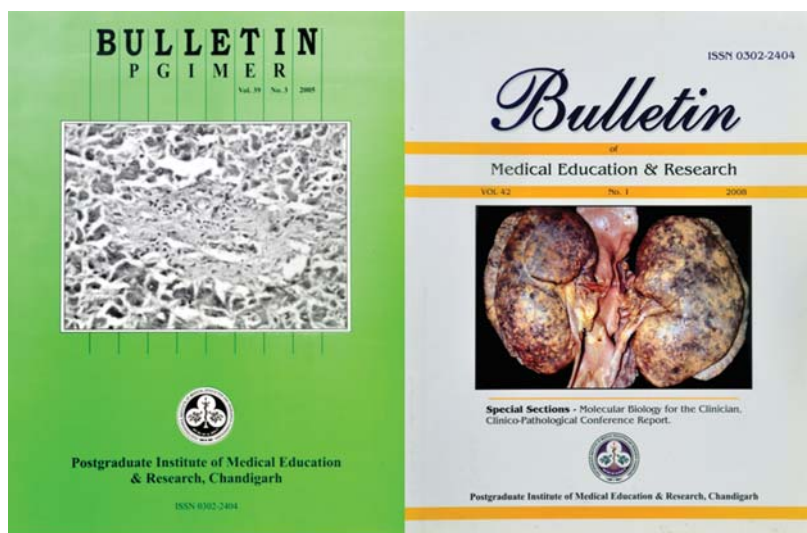
Wind of Change..... Now that is a phrase which is many times used to exemplify situations like this. British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan used it, when he addressed the Parliament of South Africa in 1960, and many famous authors have used it when they wanted to usher in changes; I however always relate the phrase to two songs from my formative years. One is the 1990 power ballad written by Klaus Meine, vocalist of the German heavy metal band Scorpions, which appeared on their 1990 album Crazy World, and the second one made famous by the Bee Gees in the 1960s.

A medical journal, however, cannot be influenced by nostalgic musings of a new editor. Cut to the task at hand. As part of the restructuring of this prestigious journal of the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, many things were changed. I took over as the Chief Editor from our present Director, Dr YK Chawla, and I was given a free hand to structure a working team. Following the same principles as all others prior to me, I asked for opinions, and took advice from others, and was able to form a core team of doctors who were extremely interested in elevating the journal to an online version, and to modernise it as per international standards. In Prof V Jha, I have a very able Associate Editor, who himself edits other journals and is a very active member of the academic Email chatgroups; in Prof Radhika I have the feminine touch in addition to an understanding of the basic sciences, so essential for the upgradation of a multispeciality journal. And, in the two young assistant editors, Dr Sarvdeep Dhatt and Dr Ramandeep Virk, I have the enthusiasm of youth and the vision of developing minds, not to mention their exotic tastes in coffee. And of course there is the editorial coordinator, Kusum Rana, who brings an earthy flavor to the editorial board meetings as well as years of experience. The addition of a judicious blend of young and experienced in the National Editorial Board, plus the enthusiasm of the International editorial board, has now lent the journal many strengths, which we hope to channel into a productive academic organ in the near future.

No new journal can progress if its history is not taken into account. I hope to change what George Bernard Shaw stated so famously, although tongue in cheek..... *'Hegel was right when he said that we learn from history that man can never learn anything from history!!'* It is with this thought process in mind that I have taken a conscious decision to publish verbatim the foreword that Dr Santokh Singh Anand wrote in the inaugural issue. This was written in the fifth year of the then infant PGI, and today in the fiftieth year of this grand institution, we hope that we can still uphold the values and aspirations portrayed for the 'academic life and the research potential'.



The years 1968 to 1999



The years 2000 to 2011

Contemplating the history of our journal, the phases it has evolved through have been diverse and colorful, and the journal has grown tremendously from the first issue of Bulletin PGI, brought out in 1966.

The growth was slow, as the earliest years, i.e 1966,1968,1969, saw only one issue per year. Then in 1970, the journal was changed into a quarterly publication, but kept its name. The cover changed in 2004, and all four issues came out in different vibrant colors. In 2008, the journal got a new look by changing of its cover as well as a modified, new name, i.e. Bulletin of Medical Education and Research, which was proposed to be self explanatory. However, most of the faculty felt that the name 'bulletin' did not convey the import of the contents of the journal, and after much discussion and thought the present name has evolved. Once again the name is self-explanatory, as the journal focuses on postgraduate medical and surgical issues, medical education, and of course research.

What is in a name? As a famous quote goes, '*A Rose by any other name would smell just as sweet*'. The same adage applies here; the editorial board maintains that by renaming the Bulletin PGI into the newer Journal of Post Graduate Medicine, Education and Research, we would not deter from our proclaimed aims, i.e. the dissemination and propagation of medical science and education as well as the encouragement of medical research. So here goes; welcome to a new era, with the Internet connecting us that much more easily, and communications becoming more proficient and faster. We hope that the newer and better version of the Journal, with its online availability and its improved printing would be more attractive to the younger generation. As Dr SS Anand expected in the last lines of his inaugural editorial, we can only hope that we have withstood the test of time where academic issues are concerned.

Here's to the future!

Mandeep S Dhillon
Professor and Head
Department of Orthopedics
Postgraduate Institute of Medical
Education and Research, Chandigarh, India