



The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America and The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America Express Letters Update

I thank *Acoustics Today* (AT) Editor Arthur Popper for asking me to contribute a brief update

about *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* (JASA) and its special section *JASA Express Letters* (JASA-EL) to supplement the editorial that appeared in the March 2019 issue of JASA (see doi.org/10.1121/1.5095417). One large function of the ASA Publications Program is to advertise the Acoustical Society of America (ASA) and its activities, including our journals, proceedings, and magazines. *AT* reaches a different audience than *JASA*, and so this extra communication will help us reach a much wider audience overall.

There is no need to reproduce the *JASA* Editorial here because it is freely available at the *JASA* site. However, before reading the *JASA* Editorial, I ask the reader for the patience to read further for a minute or two and then circle back.

The March *JASA* Editorial had two main aims: (1) to give a periodic progress report about what has transpired regarding *JASA* and *JASA-EL* over the past year and (2) to give the reader an idea of some of the coming changes in ASA Publications. I will let the *JASA* Editorial speak for itself on those topics but will also note that even in the brief months since that editorial, much has happened that will affect *JASA*, and I mention those particular things here.

The second “Summit” meeting of the Society in Tucson, AZ, in February 2019 (see From the President in this issue of *AT*), followed by a smaller meeting in Melville, NY, in April, were very noteworthy events because they will be very influential in charting the course for the Society and thus for ASA Publications. The first Summit (in Austin, TX, in 2015) had a profound effect on ASA Publications (see References in the March editorial), and the second Summit promises to do so as well.

Although the final reports were not available when this was written (April 25, 2019), there are (at least) two areas where we

see major changes that will affect ASA Publications. The first is the plan of the Society to look carefully at possible new technical areas of scholarship and interest to supplement the areas that we already currently encompass. Keeping the Society up-to-date regarding technical foci is a must, and we fully expect that this will be reflected in the technical area headings that will be found in our publications in future years.

A second topic was increasing the emphasis of the ASA on “practice” in addition to its academic component. Toward this, we are already initiating a new section heading in *JASA* (tentatively) called “Acoustic Standards and Practice,” where practice means the application(s) of acoustics as opposed to acoustical theory. We need the practice of acoustics to be represented in our journals, meetings, and other activities, and this new section heading is a first step as far as ASA Publications is concerned. By the time you read this, a separate, brief *JASA* editorial should appear on this topic, authored by *JASA* Editor in Chief James Lynch and Standards Director Chris Struck.

Another direction being pursued that wasn’t mentioned in the *JASA* Editorial is that we will be exchanging overview articles with Chinese acoustics journals as a part of increasing our international outreach and presence. Chinese authors submit the second highest number of articles to *JASA* after US authors, and so China seems a very good starting point for this international initiative.

A final topic is the “changing of the guard” at the American Institute of Physics Publications (AIPP) regarding the journal manager for ASA Publications. For the past three years, Dr. Frederick Kontur has been our AIPP point of contact and did an absolutely fantastic job for us as well as being a pleasure with whom to work. Fred left the AIPP on April 19 for a job closer to his family in Pittsburgh, PA, and all of us at ASA Publications wish him the best! Succeeding Fred is Dr. Matthew Kershish. We welcome Matt aboard and look forward to working with him in the years to come.

I’ll leave things here but with one small further note. Please don’t forget to read the March *JASA* Editorial because there are some good bits in that as well!