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Incorporating the Journal of Biological Photography

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INCORPORATING THE Journal of Biological Photography

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PUBLISHER'S COMMENTS

With the launch of *JBC* 34-1, the first issue of 2008, we now have fourteen online *JBC* issues available. These online issues when combined with the prior printed volumes represent a significant educational achievement, and without question have added to our professional body of knowledge.

The *JBC* Representatives from each of our five member Associations, as well as the Association Editors, have worked extremely hard to provide yet another informative issue. Please take a moment to email one of the *JBC* Board Members or Editors and let them know what you think about our latest *JBC* offering.

Our *Journal's* 34-1 Gallery features the award-wining print media, website design, and video programs from HeSCA's most recent Media Festival, which was held in Toronto, Canada, at HeSCA's 2007 annual meeting. Be sure to check out these creative and educational print pieces, web, and motion media entries. Of course, one aspect featured in our *Journal's* Gallery is the opportunity to see these motion media winners in video trailer form. As *JBC* Management Board Chair, I personally want to thank those many HeSCA producers and directors, as well as Michael Getz and Karen Henriquez, who kindly assisted with the re-creation of this Media Festival.

Included in *JBC* 34-1 is "A Biologically Inspired Mechanooptical Imaging System Based in Insect Vision," written by Susanne K. Williams, David Reser, and Adrian G. Dyer. This article recognizes that nature has devised a number of biological imaging systems that allow animals to view their surroundings. This study investigates the principle of making photographs with a mechano-optical device, which freely transmits all wavelengths of radiation, and accurately simulates the frontal foveal region of a bee's vision.

We also include a wonderful article celebrating the remarkable life, legacy, and teaching of medical illustrator Robert Wabnitz, who passed away in 2007 at the age of 82. Mr. Wabnitz had studied medical illustration under Max Brödel at Johns Hopkins University, and for many years had directed the Medical Illustration Unit at the University of Rochester in Rochester, NY. Mr. Wabnitz is fondly remembered by colleagues and former students alike as a kind, gentle man with a passion for teaching and an infectious sense of humor. The article is simply entitled, "Remembering Bob Wabnitz," and was written by Jim Perkins.

Our 34-1 *JBC* Showcase supplements Jim's tribute and highlights an excellent selection of some of Bob Wabnitz's many surgical illustrations.

We also offer the article, "Designing a Web-based Clinical Counseling Tool About Disorders of Sex Development," written by Shelley L. Wall, Michael J. Wiley, Barbara J. Neilson, Jodie Jenkinson, Gordon Tait, and Darius J. Bägli, M.D. This article discusses the development and use of an online clinical counseling website to address the need for sensitive, highly visual, and easily understood instructional material to teach parents about disorders of sex development (DSD). During the design process, focus groups were conducted with parents at the DSD clinic of a large pediatric teaching hospital to assess the usability, optimum levels of visual complexity, and educational value of the website.

We also feature a Book Review of *Photoshop CS3 for Forensic Professionals: A Complete Digital Imaging Course for Investigators* written by George Reis. Mr. Reis is author of "Forensic Imaging - An Overview," which appeared in an earlier issue of the *JBC* (JBC 31:2).

The *JBC* Viewpoint offers some personal insight about survival strategies for institutional-based biomedical communication departments.

We continue to ask for your support of the *JBC*. You can assist us in this effort by submitting an article or a *JBC* Book Review for publication. In addition, we invite you to write a *JBC* Viewpoint about some aspect of your work, a personal philosophy, or something that you feel is of importance to the biomedical communication community. These Viewpoints are not intended to be fully illustrated or multi-referenced articles, but are designed to be thoughtful essays about subjects appropriate to all of us.

Finally, with this issue we warmly welcome Carol Gray as our new *JBC* Business Manager. You might remember that Carol was a *JBC* Board member some years ago, and she has now rejoined our team. Please welcome Carol back into the *JBC* family.

Sadly, we say a fond good-bye to our previous Business Manager, Nancy Hurtgen. Nancy was an important and strategic part of our management team, and she will be greatly missed. I'd like to personally thank Nancy for her exemplary service to the *JBC*, and wish her good luck.

Welcome to 34-1.

Gary Schnitz, CMI, FAMI Chair, JBC Management Board gschnitz@indianahandcenter.com

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