

EJBI and Methods Agree on Close Cooperation

Editorial

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Methods of Information in Medicine is a journal stressing the basic methodology and scientific fundamentals of data, information and knowledge in medicine and health care. As an official journal of IMIA, the International Medical Informatics Association, it has an international focus and readership. *Methods* issues appear as well as print medium as online.

The *European Journal for Biomedical Informatics (EJBI)* is an online journal with European focus, reacting on the need to share the information in the multilingual and multicultural European area. Compared to *Methods* it has a stronger focus on applications.

During the last years the submission rate to *Methods* has increased steadily. As a journal with a print version the space available was and is limited. Although the number of issues has been increased from five to six issues per year [1] and the journal's acceptance rate for manuscripts has decreased and is comparatively low, there have in the last year been considerable delays in the publication of some accepted papers.

EJBI is currently in a phase of reshaping its editorial policy. In this context the editors of *EJBI* (J. Z.) and *Methods* (R. H.) recently met in Stuttgart with Dieter Bergemann, the publisher of Schattauer Verlag, and other senior members of this publishing company. As an outcome of this meeting it was agreed that *Methods* and *EJBI* will in future collaborate more closely with the aim to better meet future demands of timely and high-quality, peer-reviewed publications for a broad readership, including possibilities for multilingual publications.

In future *EJBI* will be entitled Schattauer-related journal. *EJBI's* publications will be accessible via Schattauer. Vice versa *Methods* will be accessible via *EJBI's* web pages.

In addition the editors are intending to define the aims and scope of both journals

so that they complement one another well. Plans exist for having joint Special Topics, where the English papers as reference papers will appear in *Methods* with the additional option that versions of these papers in other languages are accessible through *EJBI*. Selected best papers of *EJBI* may in future appear in *Methods*.

The editors of *Methods* and *EJBI* will work closely together to implement this collaboration. They acknowledge gratefully the support of Schattauer Publishing Company. We are convinced that with this collaboration timely and high-quality publications are supported to a broad audience and that multilingual aspects can be better considered. We are doing this in order to meet the demands of our authors and readership.

Reference

1. Haux R, McCray AT. From Five to Six at 45. *Methods* will Increase its Number of Issues in its 45th Year of Existence (Editorial). *Methods Inf Med* 2005; 44: 601-602.

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