

Jonathan K. Ehrman, PhD, ACSM-CEP, FACSM
Editor-in-Chief, *Journal of Clinical Exercise Physiology*
Associate Director, Preventive Cardiology
Edith and Benson Ford Heart & Vascular Institute
Henry Ford Medical Group, Detroit, MI

Farewell, but Not Goodbye

In 2011, I was approached by Dr. Clinton Brawner, at the time the current President of the Clinical Exercise Physiology Association (CEPA), about an idea he had of a journal dedicated to the practicing clinical exercise physiologist. His ask to me was to be the Co-Editor-in-Chief, along with him, and to launch the first issue in 2012. I reluctantly said yes and subsequently set off a wonderfully frustrating and highly rewarding journey to establish, solidify, and grow the *Journal of Clinical Exercise Physiology (JCEP)*, which is the Official Journal of the CEPA. Now after 14 volumes, 40 issues, 4 supplemental issues, and nearly 1,000 pages of articles, I have decided to step down as the Editor-in-Chief following this issue (Volume 14, Issue 1).

The initial 4 volumes (2012–2015) included only 1 issue per year containing review articles, case studies, and invited commentaries. In 2016, we made the decision to increase the number of issues to 3 (and subsequently to the current 4 issues per year in 2017) and to begin publishing original research. This required the establishment of associate editors, section editors, and a cadre of peer reviewers. Without the outstanding group of individuals who have rotated through these roles over the past 7 years, the journal could not have succeeded. I am so thankful for them all, and I have an additional huge thank you to Clinton, who had the initial idea and drive to establish *JCEP* during his 5 years as the Co-Editor-in-Chief.

In addition to increasing the number of issues and pages published per year, we have also grown the readership. Initially, *JCEP* was only available to members of the CEPA (~500–600 members in 2012–2015). In 2017, an agreement was reached with Exercise & Sport Science Australia (ESSA) to establish *JCEP* as the Official Journal of the ESSA. This expanded potential readership to thousands more. In 2022, the Canadian Society of Exercise Physiology (CSEP) began to offer *JCEP* as a member benefit.

As stated in the title of this editorial, I am leaving as Editor but not leaving *JCEP*. In the June issue, you will meet Professor Neil Smart, who is the next Editor of *JCEP*. At that time, I will move to a supporting role for *JCEP* with a goal of continuing to work to solidify the journal's future. This includes growing readership, article submissions, and assisting the ongoing work toward indexing in the Web of Science and MEDLINE (note that *JCEP* is currently indexed in Google Scholar).

In closure, being the Editor of *JCEP* and seeing what it has (and will) become is a blessing in my life. I urge you all to introduce *JCEP* to anyone within your circle of influence (including your colleagues and students), as this is the best way to encourage new readers and submitters. Let us all continue to grow the reach and influence of *JCEP* among the world's practicing clinical exercise physiologists.