New Opportunities For Research Publication

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Just as the Internet is transforming traditional teaching models in medical education, it also is changing the publication model for scholarly work as evidenced by the growth in open access journals no longer tied to the volume/issue cycles of traditional printing. Medical schools around the world are adopting this concept to facilitate publication resulting from early research involvement of students and the transition to academic medicine of residents and fellows.

I would like to congratulate the Editorial Staff for launch of UT’s new online journal, Translation: The University of Toledo Journal of Medical Sciences. The Journal will welcome original articles describing novel results of basic and clinical research, case reports, and reviews. The review process will be rapid and will be applied uniformly, while recognizing the restrictions imposed by clinical training and curricular scheduling on early career stage investigators, where the flexibility to complete additional experiments is not available. Support from the faculty both within and outside of the institution is essential as a source of expert peer review through critique of the design, conduct, analysis and communication of results while upholding excellence in early stage work.

Translation will serve to highlight the growing momentum of clinical and translation research within professional and graduate programs. In 2013 52% of residents and fellows participated in clinical research resulting in 51 conference presentations. In 2012 we experienced a 40% increase in the number of 1st year medical students involved in the summer research program. As a final part of the experience, all these students present their work at the Summer Research Forum, with many of these progressing to presentation at national meetings. Approximately 50 students per year choose the MSBS program as an entry path to medical school. All are required to complete scholarly projects during the summer following their didactic work. For many of these projects, preparation of a manuscript for faculty review and publication in Translation can be an appropriate milestone in their scholarly development.

I would urge all faculty in research mentoring roles to encourage manuscript submission to further showcase the excellent accomplishments within our institution.