

## EDITOR'S PAGE

# Turning the Page, Keeping the Book

This year's American College of Cardiology (ACC) Annual Scientific Session was in Washington, DC, and this was a good thing. It was good for many reasons: the convention center now seemed to fit our needs by allowing the first ACC meeting in our nation's capital in my professional lifetime; it was a facility many of us are familiar with thanks to the Transcatheter Cardiovascular Therapeutics meeting; Washington, DC, is a great city, despite unending attempts to demonize it; and the College saved money by not having to transport staff because the Heart House is here. However, the best part for me was discovering that my grandchildren's parents had brought them to Washington, DC, for spring break, and I was able to join them for a day prior to the meeting. We visited my Congressman, John Lewis, and the history that the kids had studied on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day really came alive. My sophisticated granddaughters showed great interest, but my 6-year-old grandson stole the show. After he told Congressman Lewis approximately 10 6-year-old-level jokes, he took a serious interest in the photos of John Lewis being beaten by police in Selma, Alabama. Henry said, "That makes me really mad because my good friends would not have been able to go to school with me back then. I would march too!" What a great history lesson that visit was.

These days in Washington, DC, provided me with an opportunity to reflect not only on the history of our country, but also on the history of cardiology and our College. James Forrester and John Harold produced a book, *The Past is Prologue* (1). Starting at almost any point in the last 65 to 70 years and looking forward, it would be difficult to imagine the advances that have occurred, but almost all were, as John Harold quoted in his presidential address, "Built on the Shoulders of Others Who Went Before." At the meeting of the Board of Trustees, another milestone was recognized: the tenure of Tony DeMaria as Editor-in-Chief of *JACC* has timed out. His 12 years of leadership were celebrated, and his successor, Valentin Fuster, paid a moving tribute to what has been accomplished at the *Journal* with Tony at the helm. The *Journal* has become weekly, it has risen in impact to be among the top cardiovascular publications, and its circulation far exceeds all others. The 3 sister journals have been launched to enable more comprehensive coverage of interventional cardiology, imaging, and heart failure. The *JACC* family has become the primary source of clinically-relevant cardiovascular research. Tony has really done it right, but that does not mean that we cannot continue to improve.

As Valentin Fuster takes over as Editor-in-Chief of *JACC*, and a new cadre of associate editors and section editors take up the reigns, change will be evident. Some will be obvious, such as the cover format and the synopsis of each paper showing what we know in background, what the study teaches, and what is yet to be learned. I call it, "What's known, what's new, and what's next." Images will improve and will be instructive in themselves, as medical illustrators have been engaged to help tell the story in pictures. Maybe a picture is worth 4,500 words (the limit for original research). We shall see. A slight reduction in original research articles per issue of the *Journal* will undoubtedly increase the requests for the sister journals to consider the more specialized papers. New ways of presenting the journals will evolve to include various electronic publishing options, and content that cannot be reproduced in print will become available on personal devices. As for *JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions*, authors should consider which submission pathway would be most appropriate. Submissions to either *JACC* or *JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions* remain options. There will be many other new ideas that will be included in the *JACC* family of journals.

*JACC* has a long and storied history, with iconic leaders from Simon Dack to Bill Parmley to Tony DeMaria—and now the future with Valentin Fuster. The twin siblings,



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*Tony has really done it right, but that does not mean that we cannot continue to improve.*

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*JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions* and *iJACC*, seem all grown up, but they are only 6 years of age, and the newest offspring, *JACC: Heart Failure*, is a robust 1-year-old. All are healthy and excited about the future. The title of the book that was made available to all Fellows of the College, *The Past is Prologue*, is also appropriate for the *JACC* family of journals. As this *JACC* family moves to the future, we must remember that what has been built has become one of the greatest assets of the ACC. For sure, we will be turning the page—but we are keeping the book.

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**REFERENCE**

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