

Editorial

Once viewed as a discipline at the wet and pungent end of Medicine, Anatomy has had a rebirth with the publication of this inaugural issue of the *Sri Lanka Anatomy Journal*, placing it firmly in the scientific limelight. Let us all toast this singular success in the field of Anatomy and its allied subspecialties.

There is in Sri Lanka as in the rest of the world, an ever changing landscape in the teaching of the basic sciences in the field of Medicine. Anatomy as a discipline is being professionally persecuted and nudged to the brink of extinction by some clinicians and modern educationists, who are nibbling away and diluting the teaching and learning of the subject, riding on the slogan 'Integration'.

This inaugural issue of the *Sri Lanka Anatomy Journal* is certainly a welcome whiff of change to the community of Anatomists. It provides them an opportunity as a well represented professional body to formally showcase their research, use it as a forum to air their professional views and articulate policies on new trends in the teaching of Anatomy and its allied subjects.

The launching and publication of this Journal, was an idea conceived in the mind of Professor Ganananda Nanayakara and incubated to reality in a span of a few months. The Anatomists are indebted to him for this seminal contribution and his attempt to catalyze them in a very cohesive way to develop visibility, and justify a formidable presence for our subject in the long road ahead.

This Journal takes its first literary steps 352 years after the publication of the first Journals, the French *Journal des sçavans* and the English *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society* which began systematically publishing research results way back in 1665.

My fervent wish is that with the debut of this Journal the young Anatomists will be afforded an opportunity to present their research findings and have the scripts reviewed and edited by peers before they navigate the international scene. May this Journal grow in the years ahead, acquire prestige and succeed in attracting high caliber scientists both in Sri Lanka and overseas to publish their research.

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