

From the Editor

Dear Reader:

For the past four years I have had the pleasure of working with Managing Editor Kurt Larrick. Kurt had an opportunity to move on to another publishing job, and we wish him the best in his future endeavors, but he will be missed. The role of the Managing Editor is critical to the *Journal*. The Managing Editor is employed by AmSECT's management firm and assists AmSECT volunteers with the publication of the *Journal* and *Perfusion Life*, in addition to many other responsibilities for the organization.

I hope you have noticed the improvement in the style of the *Journal* over the last four volumes. Kurt has produced an exceptionally professional format with a desktop publishing program. His creative ideas for layout have enhanced the look and readability of the *Journal*. He set up a computer tracking system for manuscripts and their distribution. But beyond his technical abilities, he brought an intelligence and attention to detail that was invaluable to the production of the *Journal*. He helped to coordinate the efforts of our Editorial Board, practicing perfusionists from across the United States to Europe, and facilitated communication with authors.

Because of Kurt's interest in the profession and its practitioners, he became an important resource person and additionally was able to contribute many original ideas to both the *Journal* and *Perfusion Life*. The Editorial Board and I offer our sincerest appreciation to Kurt for his commitment to the *Journal* and its quality.

Join me in welcoming Tara Hoke as our new Managing Editor. Tara began her tenure with AmSECT in time to be involved with the production of this issue. She's done a great job, and I look forward to her continued association with the *Journal*.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Palmer Stark, CCP
Editor

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