

## From the Editor

The March issue starts my second year as Editor of the *Journal of ExtraCorporeal Technology*. It has been an interesting year and it has been rewarding getting back into the perfusion community. Looking back on 2016, I wanted to remember the passing of one of the pioneers and leaders in cardiac surgery, Dr. Denton Cooley (August 22, 1920 to November 18, 2016). He was one of the surgeons that not only witnessed, but also contributed to the evolution of cardiopulmonary perfusion. He was cofounder of the Texas Heart Institute, which houses the School of Perfusion Technology. He also performed the first successful heart transplant in 1968 and in 1969 implanted the first artificial heart. For his contributions to medicine and the advancement of cardiac surgery, he was awarded the Medal of Freedom in 1984. His contributions to cardiac surgery and perfusion will be long felt.

I want to thank the Robert Groom and the board of directors for providing me with guidance required for this position.

I also wanted to thank the following reviewers who reviewed at least one manuscript in 2016. Thank you for providing your time and expertise to ensuring that the authors get important feedback on their manuscripts, and that the manuscripts get processed in a timely manner.

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I also wanted to thank all the authors who submitted manuscripts to the Journal in 2016. I do know the time and energy required to write a paper. Writing a manuscript is not easy, especially when you have other duties and responsibilities requiring your time during the day. Thank you for taking on the challenge.

A big thanks goes out to the managing editors and the SmithBucklin team. The managing editor was switched over to SmithBucklin in June 2016, so we have been learning the Journal processes together.

Last, but not least, I wanted to thank the readers of the *Journal of ExtraCorporeal Technology*. Without readers with an interest in the advancement of perfusion, the Journal would not be in existence.

Thank you and best regards for 2017!

Julie Wegner, PhD  
*Editor-in-Chief*