



### ***Biologicals Editor-in-Chief***

This spring, there will be a “passing of the baton” to the next Editor-in-Chief for IABS’ Journal *Biologicals*. After more than six years of leading the way for our Journal, Dr. Robin Thorpe will retire and the role will be assumed by Dr. Norman Baylor. While transitions can be bittersweet, I am pleased to welcome Dr. Baylor to this role and I congratulate and thank Dr. Thorpe for his years of service in this critical role for the Alliance.

Dr. Thorpe assumed the role of Editor-in-Chief of Biologicals on January 1st 2015 after having served as Section Editor for Biotherapeutics for many years (at least 10 years, but probably longer). In addition, he has authored many papers/reviews/meeting reports that have appeared in our Journal. Under Dr. Thorpe’s leadership, thirty-seven issues were published containing four hundred and eighty individual papers. Dr. Thorpe has worked hard to maintain the focus of the journal on regulatory science and as a “niche” Journal for myriad biological products, Dr. Thorpe has endeavoured to maintain the scope of the Journal, as well as its reputation by screening and managing thousands of submissions. Reviewing the accomplishments of the Journal has been an important part the annual IABS Board meetings of which Dr. Thorpe has been an active participant and champion for IABS. Please join me in wishing the best for him as he moves away from daily activities on the Journal to new adventures.

Our new Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Norman W. Baylor, is currently the President and CEO of Biologics Consulting Group, Inc. where he is responsible for managing a team of scientific and clinical consultants that provides national and international regulatory and product development strategy and advice on pre-licensure and commercial production of biological, pharmaceutical and device products. Dr. Baylor was formerly the Director of the Office of Vaccines Research and Review (OVRR) at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research. Prior to his position as Director, he served as Deputy Director of OVRR and Associate Director for Regulatory Policy. Dr. Baylor has evaluated and/or facilitated the development and licensure of numerous new vaccines such as acellular pertussis, varicella, pneumococcal conjugate, human papillomavirus (HPV), influenza, Zoster, and all the new generation combination vaccines during his 20-year career at FDA. Dr. Baylor received his B.S. degree in medical microbiology from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in microbial genetics and molecular microbiology, respectively from the University of Kentucky. Dr. Baylor spent three years as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Virginia School of Medicine in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology where his research focused on influenza viruses, and 3 years with Program Resources Incorporated as a Senior Research Scientist at the National Cancer Institute-Frederick Cancer Research Facility working on mechanisms of latency in

retroviruses. Dr. Baylor served as FDA's liaison to CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, the US Department of Health and Human Services National Vaccine Advisory Committee, the Advisory Commission on Childhood Vaccines, and a member of the NIH NIAID Council. Dr. Baylor continues to serve as an expert advisor to the World Health Organization on several global vaccine initiatives. He is a member of the Board of Trustees at the Sabin Vaccine Institute in Washington, DC. Dr. Baylor's current scientific interests include infectious diseases and global public health with a focus on development of vaccines. The wealth of experiences that he brings to the role of Editor-in-Chief will no doubt continue the fine traditions and accomplishments of our journal.

I am grateful to Dr. Tim Schofield for leading the search team and appreciate his and the two Editors-in-Chief for all their efforts to ensure a seamless transition. Over the next couple of months, the transition plan will allow Dr. Baylor to begin to manage new submissions to the Journal while Dr. Thorpe continues to manage manuscripts that were submitted under his tenure.

Please join me in congratulating these stellar individuals as they work to ensure that our Journal remains as a key asset for the Alliance.



Dr. Joris Vandeputte, DVM  
President  
Rue Mina-Audemars, 3  
CH- 1204 Geneva  
Switzerland  
[joris.vandeputte@iabs.org](mailto:joris.vandeputte@iabs.org)  
[www.iabs.org](http://www.iabs.org)  
Tel: +32 65755285 Cell: +32 473528392