EDITORIAL

# Introducing the Online Version of Annals of KEMU

With rapid developments in the field of information technology in the last decade, areas like medical education, research and clinical practice have greatly improved. Physicians can now access latest information about different diseases and newer ways to combat disease with the click of a button. Open access to medical knowledge has been a topic of debate recently. Many of the medical journals now provide free full text access to physicians working in poor countries while a few offer the same to everyone.

Aiming to be in line with technology, Annals of King Edward Medical University is being presented to the readers as an open access online journal starting from March 2010. The print version shall continue to be published as it has always been. The online edition of the journal is available at www.annalskemu.org as well as through the Annals of KEMU link at the University's website, www.kemu.edu.pk.

The online version offers the latest as well as all the previous editions of the journal with full texts of each article in adobe portable document format (pdf). Users will be able to access the articles from the website without the need to register. The website also offers special area for authors and reviewers. Any reader who wishes to submit an article to the journal will have to register him/herself at the website and indicate in the registration form about the interest in authorship. Once registered, the user can go to the Author's Area and begin the simple online article submission process. It is a step by step process with elaborated description on how to proceed with each step. Reviewer permissions can be given to the selected users by the journal administration. Once nominated, the reviewer can monitor the status of articles sent to him/her for review. The reviewer can download the copy of the article (in Microsoft word document format) and can upload it back through his/her account after the review is complete. This reduces the amount of paper work, thus helping in conservation of funds as well as offering an environment friendly paper free work zone.

Other features of the website include the ability to search through all the available issues of the journal in different categories like authors' name, title of the article, abstract, index term and full text. Registered users can also subscribe for email alerts by virtue of which they can get an email notification whenever a new issue is published online.

Open Journal Systems (OJS) is a journal management and publishing system that has been developed by the Public Knowledge Project through its federally funded efforts to expand and improve access to research. OJS is open source software made freely available to journals worldwide for the purpose of making open access publishing a viable option for more journals, as open access can increase a journal's readership as well as its contribution to the public good on a global scale. The Public Knowledge Project is dedicated to improving the scholarly and public quality of research. It operates through a partnership among the Faculty of Education at the University of British Columbia, the Simon Fraser University Library, the School of Education at Stanford University, and the Canadian Centre for Studies in Publishing at Simon Fraser University.

It would be unjust if I don't mention the efforts of Dr. Naeem Majeed, KE grad of 2007, in bringing the journal online. A dedicated Kemcolian as he is, he has generously donated the domain and hosting to the journal as well as complete logistic and technical support for the online edition of the journal. The launch of the online edition at the eve of 150th anniversary of the institute marks an amazing gift to KEMU from Dr. Naeem. I would also take this opportunity to offer my gratitude to Mr. Rashid Javed, Manager KEMCAANA computer labs for his excellent support and assistance in all IT related activities at King Edward Medical University.

I hope you enjoy using the online edition of the journal.

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