

Chapter Five

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The Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry

Periodicals and Dental Journalism

The first national dental organization, the American Society of Dental Surgeons (ASDS), was formed between 1839 and 1840. Dr. Chapin A. Harris was instrumental in its development and served as the editor of the *American Journal of Dental Science (AJDS)*. In 1840, he became dean of the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery at the University of Maryland, the first dental school.¹⁻³ The 1921 Index to Dental Literature listed 250 different periodicals as being published between 1839 and 1921.⁴ These publications ranged from independent scientific journals to ubiquitous “trade” magazines. Trade journals survived for many years, such as the *Dental Cosmos* that initially began in 1847 as a dental newsletter published by the S.S. White Company in Philadelphia. Purportedly, the “amalgam war” of 1856 led to the dissolution of the ASDS. As a result, its journal, the *AJDS*, ceased publication shortly thereafter.



Three years later, in 1859, the American Dental Association (ADA) was formed in Niagara Falls, New York. The ADA later merged with the Southern Dental Association in 1895 to become the National Dental Association (NDA). The first issue of a “journal” began as the *Official Bulletin of the NDA*, which was published in 1913.^{5,6} This noteworthy publication was the result of the emerging exchange of scientific information. It represented a pivotal transformation in dental journalism, as the emphasis changed from a mechanical basis for dental care to a biological basis for the prevention and treatment of dental diseases. Honorary Member George W. Clapp further remarked upon the significance of this paradigm shift in the 1919 publication of the *Journal of Dental Research (JDR)*.⁷ Drs. J. Leon Williams and Martin Dewey were Honorary members who served as section editors of the *JDR* along with Dr. William J. Gies and others.⁸ In 1917, the *Official Bulletin* was renamed as the *Journal of the NDA (JNDA)*. Remarkably, the NDA’s name reverted back to the ADA designation in 1922, resulting in the simultaneous and corresponding name change to the *Journal of the American Dental Association (JADA)*. Over time, the *JADA* and the *JDR* flourished while other periodicals subsequently declined or ceased being published, such as the

Dental Register in 1923. Interestingly, the *Dental Cosmos* merged with the *JADA* and ephemerally shared in the journal's name from 1936 to 1938. The *Dental Digest* was acquired by the Dentist's Supply Company (DSC) in 1909 and eventually was absorbed by Quintessence International in 1972, and the *Journal of Allied Dental Societies* was folded into the *JDR*. This flurry of activity and changes in dental journalism represented a coalescence and a redirection of intellect and science.

In 1919, the National Society of Denture Prosthetists (Society/NSDP) selected the *JNDA* as the official journal of the Society. Initially, the process of reviewing or discussing essays presented before the Society was open to all members of the Society. As a result, the discussions were often longer than an hour. Eventually the discussions were limited to thirty minutes with usually only one assigned discussor. Manuscripts judged to be publishable were then reviewed by the Editing and Publishing Committee followed by an Executive Council (EC) assessment before being submitted to the *JNDA/JADA* for editorial review and publication. The purpose of the EC pre-editorial review of the manuscripts was to create a standardization of terminology and to ensure accepted practices and procedures were being used along with the safeguard of censorship for any biased statements or criticisms. These actions began the burgeoning processes of peer-reviewed manuscripts. Over the ensuing years, the number of manuscripts being submitted for publication in the *JADA* increased exponentially, which resulted in members of the Society experiencing a reduction in manuscript acceptance. This outcome led to manuscripts being submitted to other journals, such as the *Dental Digest* (1895–1972) or the *Journal of Oral Health* (1917–1931). Dr. George W. Clapp from New York and Dr. William E. Cummer from Toronto served as the respective editors who facilitated the progression.

Consequently, the Minutes of the EC revealed, as early as 1928, formal discussions recognizing the need for the Society to have its own journal for the publication of essays presented at annual sessions. Preliminary contact had been initiated at that time with the C.V. Mosby Company in St. Louis. However, the NSDP members were reluctant to publish elsewhere, as they preferred the *JADA* as the recognized forum for their scientific publications. The motion to create a prosthodontic journal was consequently withdrawn, only to resurface at a later date, as the original problem had not been solved.

The Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry

In the early twentieth century, there were three organizations in the United States devoted to the discipline of prosthetic dentistry: the National Society of Denture Prosthetists (later named the Academy of Denture Prosthetics and the Academy of Prosthodontics-Academy/AP) founded in 1918, the American Denture Society (later named the American Prosthodontic Society-APS) founded in 1928, and the Pacific Coast Society of Prosthodontists (later named the Pacific Coast Society for Prosthodontics-PCSP) founded in 1929. These organizations met regularly, usually conducting annual meetings, to present papers and share knowledge, ideas, and information related to prosthodontics. As the years went by, the leadership of each organization believed there was a need for a journal in which to publish the papers that were presented at the annual meetings; otherwise, information would be lost.⁹



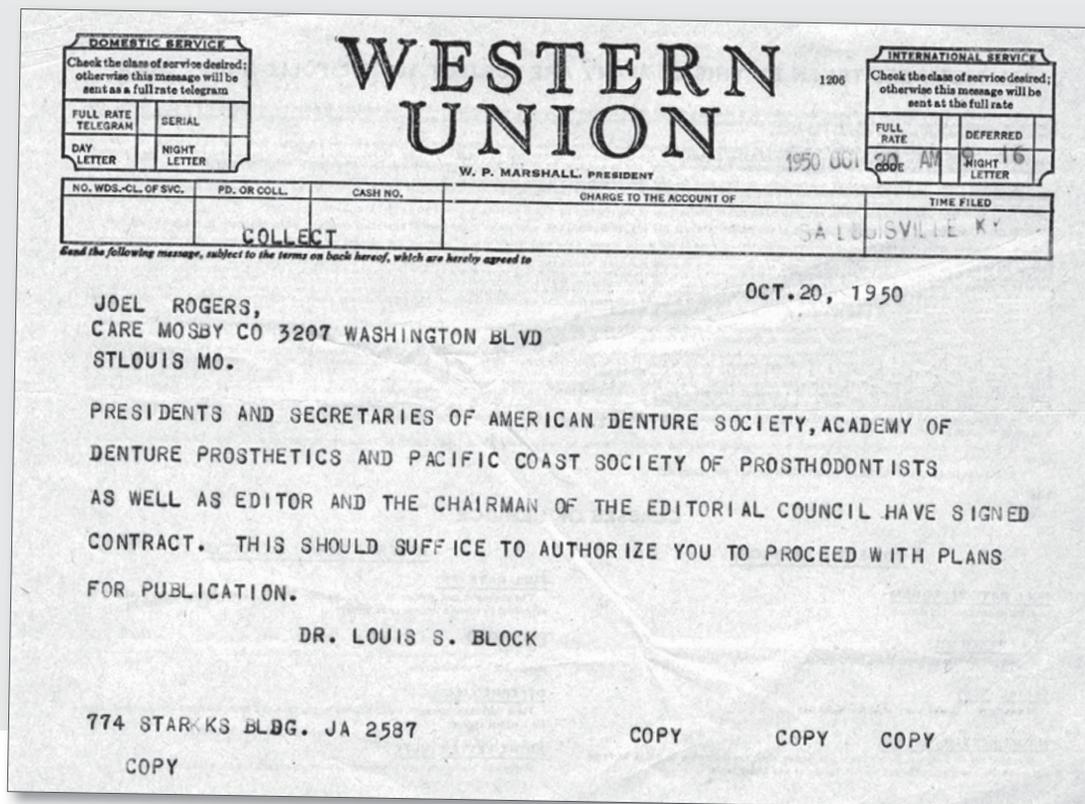
◀ Louis S. Block was the first chair of Editorial Council of the *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry (JPD)*, from 1950 to 1987. His leadership and guidance during the many issues that came before the Editorial Council were a major reason that the journal experienced early success in the dental community. He was recognized as one of the principal founders of the *JPD* that began in 1950 and produced the first issue in March of 1951. Dr. Block served as the chair of the Editorial Council for thirty-seven years.

From the 1949 archives, the fellows of the Academy motioned moving forward with a printed journal. The Publications Committee of the Academy, led by Dr. Louis S. Block, met with officers of the C.V. Mosby Company in Chicago on February 6, 1950. Dr. Block reported back to the Executive Council of the AP on February 11, 1950, stating, “The purpose of this meeting was to explain to the members of the C.V. Mosby Company the need for a journal devoted exclusively to the subject of denture prostheses, wherein the papers of the various denture groups would find expression.” It was indicated at this meeting that the AP, APS, and the PCSP would be interested in supporting such a journal.

Following Dr. Block’s meeting with the Mosby Company, he met with both Dr. Thomas Shanahan, chair of the Publications Committee, and William Terrell, president of the APS. Immediately following, a report was made at the APS annual meeting on February 20, 1950. The following day, February 21, 1950, a letter was written by Dr. Block to Roland Fisher, president of the PCSP, informing him of the decision to proceed with the journal. Additional detailed chronological correspondence is noted within the journal’s thirtieth anniversary special report.¹⁰

In the months that followed, the three organizations would become known as the founding organizations, and two entities were registered in the State of Kentucky. One, the Editorial Council of the Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry Incorporated, would be registered as a not-for-profit organization, which would own the *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry (JPD)*. Second, the Editorial Council for the *JPD* would be the board of directors that would administrate and govern the affairs of journal. The first meeting of the Editorial Council for the *JPD* occurred in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on April 29, 1950. This original Editorial Council consisted of nine members, with Dr. Louis S. Block as chair and eight other members: Drs. Emil H. Bollwerk, George A. Hughes, Thomas E. H. Shanahan, W. Les Warburton, Emmett Beckley, Roland D. Fisher, Raymond J. Nagle, and Claude J. Stansbery. Interestingly, the first editor of the *JPD*, Carl Boucher, and councilmembers Stansbery, Nagle, Warburton, Fisher, and Hughes had been or became presidents of the Academy. Dr. Louis Block was a president of the APS and Drs. Roland D. Fisher and George A. Hughes were presidents of the PCSP.

This original Editorial Council was charged with negotiating a contract with the C.V. Mosby Company, which was subsequently was presented to the officers of the founding organizations on October 20, 1950. With the signing of the contract by the presidents and secretaries of the three founding organizations, Dr. Block wired a Western Union telegram to Mr. Joel Rogers, publisher, informing him that the contract was duly executed.¹¹



◀ A Western Union telegram sent by Dr. Block in 1950.

On October 27, 1950, at the Seaside Hotel in Atlantic City, New Jersey, Dr. Block called the meeting of the Editorial Council to order. A motion was made and seconded that the Editorial Council officially approve the publication of the *JPD*, which was unanimously approved. The three founding organization presidents met to strategize the future direction of the new journal. The first issue of the *JPD* was published as the January-March 1951 issue, which included the “Origins and the History of the ADP,” written by I. Lester Furnas.¹² To date, there have been four chairs of the Editorial Council for the *JPD*. Dr. Louis S. Block served as chair of the Editorial Council from its inception until 1987. Dr. I. Kenneth Adisman served as chair from 1988 to 1997, Dr. Brien R. Lang served as chair from 1998 to 2010, and Dr. Baldwin W. Marchack served as chair from 2011 to 2018.



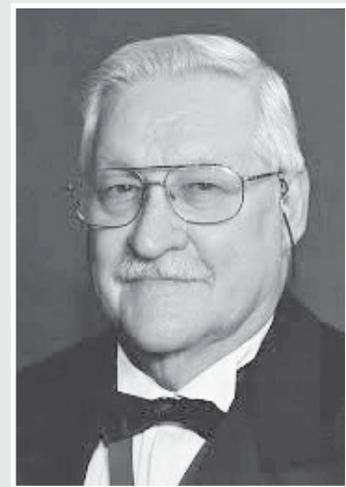
▶ Dr. I. Lester Furnas wrote the *Origin and History of the Academy of Denture Prosthetics*, which was published in the first issue of the *JPD*.

◀ In 1951, the presidents of the three founding organizations met to strategize how to advance the *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry*. Left to right: Presidents Roland Fisher (Pacific Coast Society for Prosthodontics-PCSP), Harold L. Harris (American Prosthodontic Society-APS) and Carl O. Boucher (Academy of Denture Prosthetics-ADP).





◀ I. Kenneth Adisman, chair of the *JPD* Editorial Council from 1988 to 1997, was appointed to the Editorial Council in 1980, elected vice-chair in 1985, and selected to serve as chair in 1987. Dr. Adisman's writing and editorial skills, and his awareness of the mission of the journal, contributed significantly to the progress and success realized by the *JPD* under his tenure. The standards in journalism, intellectual honesty, and integrity that the journal exhibits today are the direct result of his leadership.



▲ Brien R. Lang, chair of the *JPD* Editorial Council from 1998 to 2010, was appointed to the Editorial Council as the secretary in 1990, elected vice-chair in 1995, and selected to serve as chair in 1998, serving through 2010. Dr. Lang was committed to maintaining the excellent performance record of the journal and to continuing to be aware that the journal was in an environment of change. He devoted his energy to the maintenance of the standards in journalism developed by his predecessors. Publishing the *JPD* in multiple languages and presenting the full text of each monthly issue online via a journal website was one of his primary goals.

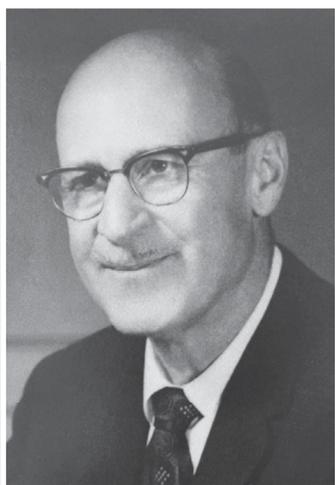
▶ Baldwin W. Marchack, chair of the *JPD* Editorial Council from 2011 to 2018, served as a member of all three founding prosthodontic organizations that were founders of the journal. He became a member of the Editorial Council in 1998 and the chair in 2011. His knowledge of and focus on financial management have been significant factors in the success of the journal.



The Editorial Council has guided the development and advancement of the *JPD* and has sponsored important prosthodontic education and research and author and reviewer workshops as well as scientific sessions, which assist the specialty's advancement, leading to landmark publications. The Editorial Council of the *JPD* Grants and Awards Committee oversees the Judson C. Hickey Scientific Writing Award that began in 1995 to honor Dr. Hickey's distinguished career as editor of the journal and his contributions to dental education, research, and administration. The annual award is divided into three categories: Research/Clinical Sciences Article, Clinical Report, and Technical Article. In addition, the Glen P. McGivney Scientific Writing Award for Systematic Reviews began in 2017. The *JPD* has played a major role in contributing to an increase in knowledge in prosthodontics and to improvements in the clinical/technical skills in restorative and prosthodontic treatment. Many of the publications in the *JPD* have, in part, come from presentations made at the annual meetings of the Academy. This attained goal was one of the key visions of the Academy's founders, to the mutual benefit of both the *JPD* and Academy members.¹³ The Academy hosted a one-day session in support of the *JPD* during the 2001 Scientific Session in Santa Fe, New Mexico, in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the *JPD*.^{14, 15} In recognition of the Academy's 2018 Centennial year and under the guidance of Dr. Carlo Ercoli, the *JPD* published eight "invited editorials" on the history and accomplishments of the Academy.¹⁶⁻²³ The Editorial Council of the *JPD* has permitted the replication of these invited editorials within the various sections of this centennial text. This acknowledgment highlights the reciprocal nurturing relationship between professional organizations and the journal.

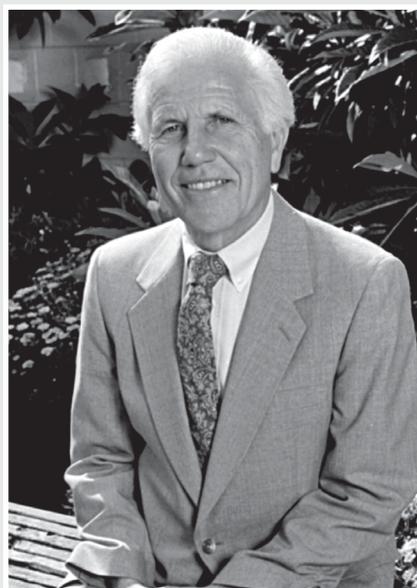
Since 1951, there have been five editors of the *JPD*, beginning with Drs. Carl O. Boucher, Judson C. Hickey, Glen P. McGivney, Carol A. Lefebvre, and Steven F. Rosenstiel. The first four editors of the *JPD* have been presidents of the Academy. Many of the section, associate, and assistant editors and members of the Editorial Review Board are fellows of the Academy. The *JPD* publishes research, section, and report topics that include computer-aided technology; education; esthetics; fixed, removable, and implant prosthodontics; maxillofacial prosthetics; TMD; occlusion; metals, ceramics, and polymers; clinical research and techniques; and evidence-based dentistry. The cadre of knowledgeable reviewers provide a remarkable anonymous peer review process that is guided by the Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry Publication Standards of Ethical Conduct to ensure ethical publications with accountability and fairness in publication.^{24, 25}

It is appropriate to note that several Academy fellows have been and remain devoted to prosthodontic journalism by the creation of other journals such as the *International Journal of Prosthodontics* with editors Drs. Jack D. Preston and George A. Zarb; the *Journal of Prosthodontics* with editors Drs. David Felton and Radi Masri; and the *International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Implants* with editors Drs. William R. Laney and Steven E. Eckert. These laudable peer-reviewed journals, along with the *JPD*, ensure members of the Academy will always have the ability to submit their scientific investigations for publication.



◀ Carl O. Boucher, editor-in-chief of the *JPD* from 1951 to 1973, played a major role in the development of the *JPD* and the organizational structure of the Editorial Council. In a letter to the C.V. Mosby Company in early 1950, he wrote, "Prosthodontia has been established as a recognized specialty in dentistry, and there is a real need for a more complete process for the collection and dissemination of the Prosthodontia information than has been available. The Journal will serve that end." On October 27, 1950, at the first formal meeting of the Editorial Council in Atlantic City, Dr. Boucher was appointed the first editor of the *JPD*. He served in that position from 1951 until his retirement in 1975. He set the standard for the journal developing its structure, format, and editorial process.

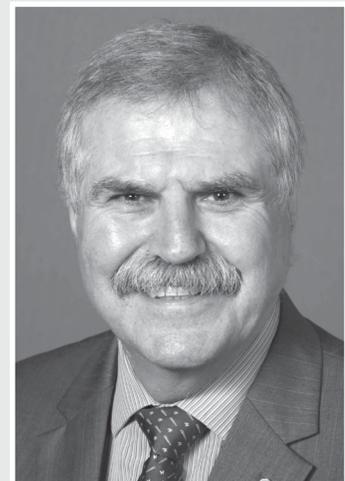
▶ Judson C. Hickey, editor-in-chief of the *JPD* from 1974 to 1990, was appointed editor of the *JPD* in 1975, following the retirement of Dr. Carl O. Boucher. As the editor, his unwavering commitment to the journal was exemplary. His leadership was a combination of strength, determination, and courage that was tempered by the gentleness and the compassion he felt for his fellow man and the brilliance of his intellect. He brought a rare insight to the office of the editor and stimulated the growth of the journal to a truly international publication that today is sponsored by thirty-one prosthodontic organizations.



The *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry's* mission statement is to provide a means for the interchange of ideas among individuals to advance the skill and knowledge of prosthodontics. Based on a critical review process and guided by the foremost authorities in all disciplines of prosthodontic and restorative dentistry, the *JPD* continues to communicate the standard for the prosthodontic and restorative care of patients.²⁶⁻²⁸ The journal is celebrating sixty-eight years of documenting the scientific and clinical advancements in prosthodontics. In doing so, it has grown from a journal founded by three sponsoring organizations to a journal representing twenty-seven national and international sponsoring organizations embodying a measure of success.²⁹ Fellows of the Academy subscribe to and support the journal by submitting manuscripts for publication, serving as editors and reviewers, and acting as directors on the Editorial Council.



◀ Glen P. McGivney, editor-in-chief of the *JPD* from 1991 to 2002, was appointed editor in 1991. Prior to being named the editor, he served as a manuscript reviewer for the journal and member of the Editorial Council. As the editor, he was truly an advocate for the author and provided them with more information about the manuscript submission process and what is expected of them than was ever available in the past. Dr. McGivney instituted an all-electronic review and manuscript tracking process. He was a major influence in publishing the evidence-based dentistry series of articles.



▲ Stephen F. Rosenstiel, editor-in-chief of the *JPD* and an author, acquired both writing skills as well as an understanding of the publication process after preparing a text on "Contemporary Fixed Prosthodontics," all of which have been very useful in his position as the editor of the *JPD* and his service on the Editorial Council.

► Carol A. Lefebvre, editor-in-chief of the *JPD* from 2003 to 2012, was appointed as the first female editor of the journal in 2003 after serving as associate editor and member of the Editorial Council for four years. From 1997 to 2001, she served as the chair of the Judson C. Hickey Scientific Writing Competition Committee. During her tenure, the use of color and a new cover was expanded throughout the journal, and color was significantly improved. Dr. Lefebvre worked closely with the chair of the Editorial Council, Dr. Lang, to develop *The Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry Publication Standards of Ethical Conduct*. She was instrumental during this time period in the implementation of anti-plagiarism software for all manuscripts to minimize the potential of scientific misconduct. Through her efforts, the *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry* articles continued to achieve an excellent impact factor.





◀ The current Editorial Council for the *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry*. Standing: Thomas J. Salinas, Arun B. Sharma (vice-chair), Carlo P. Marinello, Glen H. Johnson, Rodger Lawton, and Steven J. Sadowsky. Seated: Lily T. Garcia, Baldwin W. Marchack (chair), and Stephen F. Rosenstiel (editor-in-chief).

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