Tempus fugit - time flies rapidly, and we begin a new year, and as customary (1-3), we are delighted to inform you about some highlights for 2012, and how things bode well for the coming year.

To start with the most exciting development, we were very positively surprised about the new 2011 Impact Factor for T&H, which rose to a historic high of 5.044 in 2011 and surpassing that of the previous 'high' of 4.9, achieved in 1999. Compared to many other journals in the field, which are static or even suffering a decline, we were delighted to see a very consistent and continuous increase. We will work hard to further increase the quality of our contributions and to successfully maintain the Impact Factor trend over the next years.

Overall, we have also noted a steady increase in the number of submissions, which is again up to more than 900 manuscripts for 2012. However, this has not compromised our average time to first decision, which is 22 days.

We also had some positive developments resulting from our links to the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) Working Groups on Thrombosis and secondly, the Working Group on Atherosclerosis and Vascular Biology, as well as to the two linked national societies, namely the Spanish and Italian societies on Thrombosis and Haemostasis (SETH and SISET, respectively), including submission of high quality manuscripts.

Regularly exchanging members of the editorial board can provide fresh insights and energy at times. Accordingly, we are happy to welcome Dr. Victor Jimenez-Yuste and Dr. Wolfgang Siess, who have joined as new Section Editor members of the Editorial Board team in 2012. Dr. Jimenez-Yuste's fields of expertise relate to factor VIII and its inhibitors, von Willebrand disease, haemophilia A / B and its therapy. Dr. Siess is an expert in lipid mediators, atherosclerosis, platelets, their receptors and signal transduction.

We would like to thank Dr. Steve Watson and Dr. Marie-Christine Alessi, who have retired in 2012, for their outstanding service to the journal. We would like to mention with gratitude and sadness the death of our former section editor Dr. Andrzej Szczeklik, who has passed away in 2012.

We truly appreciate the great efforts of all our reviewers, whose excellent services are a prerequisite for the journal's success. Representing this, we would like to acknowledge our Top 10 reviewers in terms of number of manuscripts reviewed and turnaround time in 2012:

- Dirk Sibbing (with honours, having reviewed 12 manuscripts)
- Job Harenberg
- Mihail Hristov
- Bernd Jilma
- Robert Storey
- Augusto Federici
- Paul Gurbel
- Victor Serebruany
- Kurt Huber
- Francesco Dentali

Theme Issues
We would like to bring to your attention that 2012 has seen the publication of several theme issues containing highly attract-
our audience, shedding fresh light onto multifaceted and intriguing basic and clinical findings.

“T&H Image” has now been launched and following our first one (6), we look forward to receiving more interesting image-based manuscripts with landmark findings, reflecting the remarkable abilities of modern imaging techniques.

Finally …

We very much appreciate your continued support and hope that the coming year will be a successful and productive one for you and your colleagues. We look forward to seeing even more submissions of your work to our journal.

On our part, we promise you efficient turnaround and high quality peer review, as well as visible profile in our journal. For the entire editorial staff including Dr. Elinder Switzer (Stuttgart), Irina Moshkova (Munich), Dr. Andrea Schürg (Publisher’s office in Stuttgart) and Dieter Bergemann (Publisher, Stuttgart), we would like to once again express our sincere thanks to you, the readers of Thrombosis and Haemostasis.

With best wishes for a happy new year 2013

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References