



Anatomy and Physiology and Open Access Publication Strategy

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Anatomy and Physiology are the sciences of the structure and function of living organisms. The origin of Anatomy and Physiology can be traced back to the ancient civilizations of Egypt and Greece, with Hippocrates and Aristotle at the forefront and, perhaps, the most inspirational proponents of these sciences. It is work by these scientists that emphasized intrinsic mutual relationships existing between studies of Anatomy and Physiology and the practice of medicine.

During the centuries of steady progress marked by the discoveries of Galen, Versalius, Harvey, Bernard, Sherrington, and many other exceptional scientists, the field of Anatomy and Physiology has diverged and extended to include the study of the developmental, comparative, ecological, and evolutionary aspects of the structure/function relationship. As a result of this, the study of physiology encompasses numerous areas of biological sciences. Furthermore, physiology collects and interprets all molecular, cellular, tissue and organ-based biological events in order to provide an integral view of animal and human body function. The development of new pharmaceuticals and novel methods of prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of disease would be crippled without the remarkable collection of insight and systemic knowledge provided by the physiology. However, an encyclopedic knowledge of physiology is progressively becoming more difficult to achieve due to the overwhelming amount of observations being introduced via the refinement of highly sophisticated biological methods and tools. There is no simple solution to this problem. Creating the infrastructure for the rapid exchange of peer-reviewed information however, appears as critical condition of the well aligned with requirements of the modern era science and medicine progress of the Anatomy and Physiology.

Utilizing the Open Access Publishing Concept (NIH, Bethesda, 2003; <http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/bethesda.htm>) can be the

first necessary steps towards making it possible. The online Journal of Anatomy and Physiology introduced by the OMICS International Publishing Group (<http://omicsonline.org>) constitutes one of the most recently available venues.

With its open access and unique features, the OMICS Journal of Anatomy and Physiology is intended to compliment, not replace, existing journals in the field. A detailed description of these features may be found at the journal's website (<http://www.omicsoline.org/physiolhome.php>). Some of features of the journal's website are deserving of special emphasis: worldwide audience, barrier-free access, archiving and easy retrieval, no need for permission to reproduce and distribute the content of the journal (providing the original source is appropriately cited). Additionally, the journal is capable of translating any published work into over 50 languages making the visibility and impact of the articles available to laboratories and classrooms worldwide.

To ensure the works accepted for publication are of the highest quality, the Journal's Editorial board members will guide each work through a rigorous peer-review process. This process is provided not only by the editors but also by a panel of accomplished reviewers and prominent experts in many various areas of Anatomical and Physiological sciences. Every worthwhile journey is beset with obstacles, especially at the beginning. Through efforts from the editorial team and from every contributing author, the depth and reach of this journal makes it fated to become a key tool for further advances in the field. With that in mind, and on behalf of the Editorial Board, I introduce you to the first issue of the international, peer-reviewed, open access Journal of Anatomy and Physiology.

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