

EDITORIAL

New Year's Greetings

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Welcome to the first 2012 issue of the *Journal of Human Genetics* (JHG).

It would be obvious to most readers that in recent times, we have been publishing a greater number of papers submitted from countries other than Japan. More importantly, more papers are being submitted from regions relatively new to research in the field of human genetics and, encouragingly, these are also being published in JHG. I really welcome this trend. I think this is also a good reflection of the journal's improved visibility, especially on the internet, which is proved by the 40% increase of regular visitors to the journal's site compared with 3 years ago, before JHG's new era started with Nature Publishing Group. JHG is growing.

In 2012, to ensure that the journal continues to grow, I would like to start thinking about new strategies that will take JHG onto the 'next stage'. JHG still has a lot of room for further improvement and growth to be a truly international premier journal of human genetics whilst remaining an official journal of the Japan Society of Human Genetics. We need to consider ways to successfully achieve our future goals and also attract a greater number of high-quality submissions. To further improve the efficiency in the editorial and peer-reviewing processes, to review the journal's scope and define the journal's goals, with a

priority for future growth, are the important tasks for us in this coming year. Through active discussion among the editors and parent society members, I would like to develop the best methods to accomplish these tasks. Of course, I would also be happy to receive ideas and feedback from our readers and authors.

I thank all of our authors, readers and reviewers for their kind and continued participation.

Here's to another busy year in 2012. A very happy New Year!

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