

## Pre-print Publications

Dear Readers,

It is always a pleasure for a publisher to have a journal with a good scientific reputation in his publishing program. The JAD is such a journal – it is extremely well accepted in the scientific community. The most clear and simple figure for this reputation is the impact factor, which is currently 1.623.

But a good reputation and high impact factor also mean many tasks for the editor and the publisher. First of all: the number of papers submitted is constantly increasing. The editor-in-chief has to deal with this large volume of manuscripts, and the editorial board members as well as external experts are more frequently asked to review the papers. A great deal of work must be done, even before a paper is rejected. Readers usually do not notice a lot of this work – they see only the papers which emerge successfully from these procedures.

Despite an increasing number of rejected papers, the number of papers worth publishing is also increasing constantly. We therefore increased the number of papers of the journal several times over the course of the years, and we changed the publication frequency from 4 times to 6 times per year.

In 2008, we had exactly 198 submissions in total. In the same time period, 56 papers were printed on 490 pages. In the first year of publication in 1999, we only published 30 scientific papers.

This year, we have already printed 37 papers in the first 4 issues.

In the time period from January 2009 until now – mid July – 29 new papers were accepted, and 79 were rejected. After issue 4, we have 50 more papers which are already accepted and could therefore go to the printer, with an additional 70 papers currently under review.

The increasing number of papers also leads to an unsatisfying time period an author has to wait until his/her

paper is printed. In 2008 the “sound barrier” of 1 year was broken, and the average waiting time became 53.3 weeks. This year we are already at 60.9 weeks.

We feel that this long waiting period is not acceptable. It might be the norm worldwide, but it is surely not appropriate for scientific publishing.

After much discussion, we have therefore decided to implement a new publishing policy.

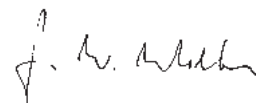
We will publish the already accepted papers much faster in the future – but first only online. By October 1st, we will publish most of the papers we have in stock on the JAD online site. Later, the papers will also appear in print.

The obvious advantage of pre-print publications is that the results of scientific studies can immediately – or at least very fast in comparison to the past – be taken note of by the scientific community. Furthermore, the papers can already be referenced in other papers with, again, positive effects on the impact factor of JAD.

So, if you want to read papers in printed form, you will be served by the publisher as usual. If you need scientific information urgently, you should regularly visit the JAD website (<http://jad.quintessenz.de>) to find the pre-print publications. These publications will of course be fully edited and layouted just like JAD print publications.

With these measures, we hope to satisfy the needs of the readers as well as the authors and best serve the scientific community.

Sincerely yours,



Johannes W. Wolters  
Publishing Director