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COVER PHOTO: by Lawrence Brewer of *Opuntia humifusa* (Prickly Pear Cactus) at Oak Openings. See article on page 76.

## THE PAST, THE FUTURE, AND CONTINUED QUALITY IN OHIO SCIENCE

It is quite an honor to become the Editor of *The Ohio Journal of Science*. As a member of the Academy for the past decade, I have always looked forward to receiving each issue of the *Journal*, and have enjoyed reading the articles that authors have so thoughtfully prepared. Many researchers and educators around the globe know of the fine work of the Academy through our outstanding journal, and I will strive to maintain and build upon that history of excellence.

Former editors, reviewers, officers, and board members have turned *The Ohio Journal of Science* into a highly respected international journal. Our acceptance rate (often cited as a measure of journal quality) is in line with other well-respected, quality research journals. Among the multi-disciplinary science journals, we are certainly one of the best.

As I begin this term as Editor, I would like to share with you the goals that I shared with the search committee. They are:

- Maintain the quality of the journal – keep focused on data-driven, scientific reports that add new information to the literature.
- Expand the scientific breadth of the journal – there is a lot of excellent science going on in Ohio.
- Add some additional features to the magazine (ideas will be discussed with the Board of Directors and other stakeholders).
- Continue publishing periodic expert reviews of noteworthy fields of science, as well as book reviews of interest.
- Research the possibility of an on-line submission

and review system for the journal, in an effort to increase efficiency and speed with which accepted articles are published.

For those who do not know me, my background is primarily in reproductive biochemistry and physiology. Research in this field has taken me from human studies of steroid metabolism to breeding of endangered species to the effects of environmentally discharged estrogenic compounds on species in the wild. I have served as a reviewer of research articles for *Endocrinology*, *Biology of Reproduction*, *The Ohio Journal of Science*, and *Fertility and Sterility*. My research publications have appeared in such journals as *Endocrinology*, *Journal of Immunoassay*, *Biochimica Biophysica Acta*, *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism*, and *Fertility and Sterility*. In recent years, teaching at an undergraduate-only institution, my focus has been on working with undergraduate science majors to help them learn what rigorous science is all about.

If *The Ohio Journal of Science* is to grow as a journal and continue to publish high quality research articles, we will need the help of many dedicated members. We always need people who are willing to be reviewers of manuscripts. If you are willing to serve the Academy in this very important way, please let me know, along with an indication of your areas of expertise, through the e-mail address listed below. Of course, we also need you to submit your manuscripts to the journal.

I look forward to the challenges ahead, and to working directly with many of you as we continue to show the world that quality science is important here in Ohio.

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