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Welcome to the Journal of Maine Medical Center

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FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the *Journal of Maine Medical Center*

Bob Bing-You, MD, MEd, MBA | Editor-in-Chief

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I once read an article by an Editor-in-Chief (EIC) who gave sage advice along the lines of “your first editorial should be your last.” They suggested that EICs, particularly if they were embarking on a new journal, should start with the end in mind. Here, “the end” refers to what your last editorial would say about events or milestones that happened during your tenure as EIC. This advice reminded me of a planning tool that I occasionally use called “Merlin Scenario.” If you may recall, Merlin was the wise magician who helped King Arthur. Because Merlin was moving backwards through time, he could remember the future and tell King Arthur about events to come.

With this advice in mind, I want to share my thoughts around what I would want to say in my last editorial—my hopes for *JMMC*.

- *JMMC* launched and soared! We have had healthy and vigorous interest from submitting authors. So much so that we expanded to a quarterly publication schedule and are even considering a monthly publication!
- *JMMC* is an easily accessible and efficient online journal. It provides a forum for all clinicians in our healthcare system, our state, and New England to share their scholarly work with others. Some topics are of regional importance, and *JMMC* has highlighted these topics. That said, we want to expand the diversity of the journal. *JMMC* very much continues to welcomes authors “from away,” as Mainers like to say.
- *JMMC* has raised the scholarly bar, driving new knowledge and learning that helps our patients and their families get better care. The journal’s focus on interprofessional education and patient

care fosters a stronger team-based culture in multiple settings.

- *JMMC* is a signature part of the academic mission at Maine Medical Center and MaineHealth. A candidate for a department chair position once remarked to me that Maine Medical Center is Maine’s “best kept secret.” *JMMC* has amplified our exposure, enhancing recruitment of all types of learners and top-notch faculty.
- *JMMC* is a source of professional satisfaction and pride. We live in a world of information overload. But *JMMC* has stood out among the flood of information, connecting and engaging clinicians. It is the first journal that people read before other journals.



So, there you have it. My five wishes that I hope to share in my last editorial.

We could not have launched *JMMC* without the vision of colleagues who planted the seed to create *JMMC* in 2007. Kudos to Bruce Cahill, *JMMC*’s Managing Editor. His willingness to learn new things and his strong ability to keep everything on track has been crucial to our success. We have assembled a great editorial team, including Vicki Hayes, MD; Kathleen Fairfield, MD, MPH, PhD; Carolyne Falank, MS, PhD; and Dina McKelvy, MLS. Many thanks to the Editorial Board for their ongoing wisdom and guidance.

To the first group of authors published in this inaugural issue, thank you for taking a leap of faith and submitting to *JMMC*. I eagerly look forward to working with future authors on publishing their hard work. We always want to improve, so please share your suggestions with anyone on our Editorial Team or Board.

Those who know me well understand that I yearn to create new and innovative approaches to education. Though my medical education career is littered with a few failed experiments, I have very high hopes for *JMMC* and the benefits the journal may bring. Challenges abound for sure.

Nonetheless, I leave you with one of my favorite Taoist sayings: “a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.”

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Bing-You".

Bob Bing-You, MD, MEd, MBA, FACP
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