

Investing in Our Future

Greetings Readers,

On behalf of the *Eukaryon* editorial board, I wish to thank you for joining us for our 11th year. *Eukaryon* began its rich history eleven long years ago as a publication that featured the best and brightest life science research at Lake Forest College. Just last year we celebrated the first full decade of the journal. Now, we stand at the beginning of a new decade ready for the new challenges it holds.

This year is an especially eventful one for the natural sciences and *Eukaryon* as the college has announced plans to enhance and expand the Johnson Science Center on campus. This announcement brought on two distinct responses. First, it has all the science students and faculty excited to see the college take a renewed interest in the many disciplines that call the Science Center home. Second, it has invoked a deep sense of wonder and excitement about the future of the sciences both at the school, and worldwide. It is this innate sense of wonder that has inspired *Eukaryon's* theme this year, "Investing in our Future."

The prospect of the future quickly became a guiding light for the journal this year as much of the board's focus turned to solidifying *Eukaryon's* place in the ever changing world. Since its inception, *Eukaryon* has recognized the important role technology plays both in the present and in shaping the future. Because of this the journal was quickly adapted to become a national online presence. By using the internet as a resource, *Eukaryon* has been able to both reach a national audience with ease, as well as archive all of its past editions to be enjoyed and used by generations to come. In order to truly solidify the journal's relationship with the internet, this year *Eukaryon* is proud to announce a "green" all online journal.

When viewed in a global context, this decision was easy for the board to make. Much, if not all, of the life sciences have become focused on preservation and going green. Since the journal already had close ties with the internet, it seemed logical to move the journal to an exclusively online system that would save both money, and the environment.

The changes to the journal do not stop there, when we view the life sciences in a historical context, they have changed significantly from where they were in the past. Science, today has become such a collaborative and interdisciplinary effort because of changes in technology. *Eukaryon*, wishing to reflect this change in the field it is so deeply tied to, has doubled its efforts to incorporate articles from other disciplines in order to expand our readers understanding of life sciences and where the field is headed.

This eventful year, which was full of changes, would not have been possible without the incredible support of the full and executive board. Without them, the journal would not be the publication it is today. The ability of the executive board to meet daunting challenges head on continue to go unparalleled as each task was dealt with in a professional and efficient manner. Each member took the time to ensure that their board was focused and committed to their aspect of the journal. The review, copy-edit, publications, and features writing process cannot be run by one person. I am honored to have worked with several of the finest people I know to have produced such a creative and professional addition to *Eukaryon's* already rich publishing history.

In order to celebrate this journal the board knew we needed to have a distinct speaker at inauguration this year. It comes as no surprise that the general board decided on Dr. Light as the inauguration speaker. Dr. Light is the Laurence R. Lee Family Professor of Biology at Lake Forest College and takes a profound interest in his students. Because of this he is a recent recipient of the Trustee Award for Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership at Lake Forest College. His dedication to campus, and teaching show the incredible investment that Dr. Light has made in the future of both science and the planet. His presentation for the eleventh inauguration is entitled "Regulating Volume: a Fundamental Property of Cells." Lake Forest College students have been working with Dr. Light for several years conducting unique research and learning invaluable skills that will help them become great scientists of tomorrow. Dr. Light has and continues to be an invaluable member of both the Science and Lake Forest College community.

I want to conclude by thanking several people for their support of the board. Lindsey Nemcek and Dr. Dawn Abt-Perkins, Director of Writing Programs and Professor of Education, for their continued support and involvement with *Eukaryon*. We appreciate their guidance during the features writing process. I would also like to thank all of our alumni who have contributed so much to make *Eukaryon* the publication it is today. Your work has created a crucial foundation invaluable to the success of the journal today. Finally, I wish to thank Dr. DebBurman for continuing his advisement of *Eukaryon*. His support and guidance have been crucial to ensuring that this journal remains successful and continues to overcome any future challenges. He has made every member of the board better by challenging them to reach their full potential. With that, I am proud to present the eleventh edition of this journal. The future is a place of boundless possibilities, I am proud that the college and *Eukaryon* are making such a crucial investment in it.

Sincerely,
Jeremy Boeing
Editor-in-Chief, *Eukaryon*, 2014-2015