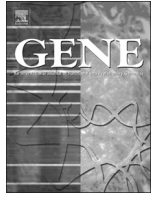




Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Gene

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/gene

Publisher's note

After more than 20 years with the journal (13 as Editor-in-Chief), Professor Giorgio Bernardi is passing the stewardship of *Gene* to a new Editor-in-Chief, Professor Mark Batzer.

Professor Bernardi took over the Editor-in-Chief position in 1996 from *Gene's* founder, Professor Waclaw Szybalski. Under Professor Bernardi's leadership, the journal expanded its scope to include new areas, including high throughput sequencing, large scale genetic variation, and epigenetics. The journal also became completely electronic in its submission system and online availability. More than 5,000 institutions (95% of institutions worldwide) now subscribe to the journal.

Professor Bernardi's dedication to ensuring that *Gene* kept up with the evolution of the field has meant that the journal has remained an authoritative resource in the community. *Gene* receives nearly a million full text article downloads every year. Top articles receive more than 2,000 downloads each quarter—a sign of their impact in the community. Further evidence of Professor Bernardi's excellent stewardship is reflected in *Gene's* increased impact factor and citation half life over the years he has served as Editor-in-Chief.

As part of the change, Dr. Alberto Bernardi will be stepping down from his position as Managing Editor. In his 13 years in the position,

Gene has benefited from his efforts, both in terms of the speed of review and the quality of our published articles. He has devoted a great deal of his time to the journal and we thank him, on behalf of both the journal and its authors, for the service he has graciously provided. We are pleased that Dr. Bernardi will remain on the editorial board of *Gene*.

I would like to personally thank Professor Bernardi for his guidance during the transition and for his help in recruiting Professor Batzer as a successor. In a joint meeting in Amsterdam in November, we assessed the needs of the journal in the coming years and mapped a plan to ensure that *Gene* will continue to improve its service to authors and readers and will grow, with the field, into new areas of research.

Professor Bernardi will continue his role as Editor-in-Chief of our sister journal *Marine Genomics*.

On behalf of *Gene's* publishing team, I would like to thank both Giorgio and Alberto Bernardi for their dedicated service to the journal and welcome Editor-in-Chief Mark Batzer.

Noelle Gracy, Ph.D.,
Publisher, Genetics and Cell Biology Program