

A busy year for the Society's journals

Professor Jayne Woodside, Honorary Publications Officer

The past year has been a busy time for the Nutrition Society journals, and, indeed, the broader publishing landscape. The Publications Committee, Trustees and Cambridge University Press met in November 2019 to discuss and plan for the future of the journals. Subsequently, and for the first time, our journals now have their own strategy, which closely aligns with that of the Society but continues to develop the portfolio and each individual journal. We met again in November 2020 to review progress and I am very pleased to be able to give you a brief update on all the developments in the past 12 months, and an insight into future changes.

Measuring success

Although there is debate over their utility, we were still incredibly pleased to hear that the impact factors for our journals had increased by 18.5% in 2019. Beyond impact factors, we were also delighted that key metrics had increased across the whole journal portfolio, with increased citations, full text views and downloads. CiteScore has also been introduced for all journals as an alternative metric to the impact factor.

New journal

In October 2019, we opened submissions for our new journal, published jointly with Cambridge University Press, *Gut Microbiome (GMB)*, and were excited to publish the first papers earlier this year, including the first animated video abstract which can be viewed on Cambridge Core. *GMB* is a fully open access journal and focuses on research dedicated to the role that different diets, pharmaceuticals and nutraceuticals, prebiotics and probiotics have in shaping an individual's microbiome composition. It welcomes submissions on the contributing factors that influence the gut microbiota and, in turn, how the gut microbiome impacts the health, development and disease status of the whole human body.

Developments

The Editors in Chief continue to work hard with CUP to develop the journals and introduce changes that will improve both the author and the reader experience. Format neutral submissions have recently been introduced for the *British Journal of Nutrition (BJN)*, so authors do not need to format their article according to journal style when submitting for the first time, and this was certainly very popular with authors when it was announced on Twitter! Graphical abstracts have also been introduced to 'tell the story' of a paper, which will encourage citations and increase readership; these are also really useful to share on social media. We were delighted to watch the inaugural *BJN* Paper of the Year lecture in December 2020, given by Professor Nagata, Gifu University Graduate School of Medicine, Japan, at the Society award event online. Members can view this lecture for free on the Society website: www.nutritionssociety.org/member-area

Open research

Finally, I want to mention the Society's commitment to open research. In addition to our two existing fully open access journals, we have recently stated our commitment to an open access transition and registered our four hybrid journals for the Plan S transformative journals programme. This means that authors of research funded by cOAlition S will be able to submit to the Society's hybrid journals and publish in a Plan S-compliant manner. The transition to open access is accompanied by a shift from traditional subscriptions to Read and Publish (R&P) agreements with academic institutions, which are negotiated on our behalf through our publishers, Cambridge University Press.

As part of our commitment to open research, the Trustees have recently approved the plan to 'flip' *Public Health Nutrition* to open access. Further details can be found online: www.cambridge.org/core/journals/public-health-nutrition

An exciting time for our journals and I am grateful for the continued hard work of the EiCs, editorial boards, reviewers, Nutrition Society staff and Cambridge University Press.

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***Gut Microbiome*: Now with no publication fees**

There is a current waiver on all APCs for manuscripts accepted in the new open access journal *Gut Microbiome (GMB)* until March 2022. Publishing in *GMB* provides a great opportunity to publish papers in a journal that supports the development of an integrated, interdisciplinary understanding of the gut microbiome. Find out more and submit here:

www.cambridge.org/core/journals/gut-microbiome

Events Calendar

Conferences

- 7-8 September 2021 – Nutrition Futures Student Conference.
- 7-8 December 2021 – Winter Conference: Obesity and the Brain.

For further details on our conferences, visit:

www.nutritionssociety.org/conferences

Webinars

- **Introduction to Human Nutrition Series:** www.nutritionssociety.org/events/introduction-human-nutrition-webinar-series
- **Obesity series:** www.nutritionssociety.org/events/obesity-series
- **On demand webinar categories:** www.nutritionssociety.org/training-academy/on-demand-webinars

Group packages are available for 7 or more registrations – each person will have individual access to the webinar to choose to watch alone or with the group.

For further information on our webinars, visit:

www.nutritionssociety.org/training-academy/webinars-and-workshops

ALL Nutrition Society Events are CPD endorsed by the Association for Nutrition.