

Evolution of Surgical Innovation: Editorship Transitions and Future Directions

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Matthew Kroh, MD, FACS, FASMBS, FASGE¹ and Marlies P. Schijven, MD, PhD, MHSc^{2,3,4}

Dear readers of *Surgical Innovation*,

The field of surgical innovation, brimming with an ever-expanding amalgam of scientific progress and clinical intrigue, has been underpinned by key scholarly publications. One such journal is *Surgical Innovation*, which has contributed importantly to the revolution of minimally invasive surgical technologies and techniques, since its inception.

Established in 1994 by Dr Bruce Macfayden and originally named *Seminars in Laparoscopic Surgery*, the journal has focused on the burgeoning realm of minimally invasive surgery, a field still in its infancy at the time. Dr Macfayden's leadership fostered an environment that nurtured technological advances and clinical insights into the changing landscape of laparoscopic surgery. The journal initially focused largely on surgical technique and technological advances in specific laparoscopic operations, written by experts in the field and overseen by a guest editor.

With gaining prominence, and a name change to *Surgical Innovation: Advances in Minimally Invasive Surgical Science, Technology, and Training* (SRI), the journal's leadership helm was passed on to Dr Adrian Park in 2004. In 2006, Dr Lee Swanstrom joined Dr Park as co-editor-in-chief. Recognizing the broader spectrum of surgical innovations, including and beyond laparoscopy, Adrian and Lee took on the mantle and oversaw a widening of the focus of the journal into what we now know as *Surgical Innovation*. Park and Swanstrom's 17-year tenure was characterized by an expansion of the journal's scope, now encompassing not only technological advancements but also process improvement, novel surgical techniques, and state-of-the-art surgical education. Such a broad view of surgical innovation has allowed the journal to serve as a platform for trailblazing research and idea circulation, in a far-reaching array of surgical subspecialties and diverse geographic regions.

As we, the new editors, look forward to the future of *Surgical Innovation*, it is essential to reflect and value the remarkable contributions of its past editors and leadership. Their combined efforts have guided the

journal through a dynamic era of surgical evolution, enabling it to be a leading voice in the field. The transition of leadership, while marking the end of an era, also signifies a new chapter in the journal's history.

Editor transitions are moments of both reflection and anticipation. They provide us with the opportunity to acknowledge the immense contributions of outgoing leadership and welcome fresh perspectives that will help guide the journal's future direction, exploring new horizons solidly built on past insights. As we look forward to the journal's continued growth and influence, we appreciate the enduring legacy of Drs Park, Swanstrom, and Macfayden.

Surgical Innovation has been an influential voice in the field of surgical innovation for nearly 3 decades. As the baton of leadership passes, we look to continued growth and expansion into the rapidly evolving fields of robotics, artificial intelligence, machine learning, augmented reality, digital surgery, and personalized medicine in this well-regarded publication. Alongside my esteemed co-editor-in-chief, Dr Marlies Schijven, a renowned expert in surgical innovation and digital health, we are eager to build on this foundation and maintain the journal's commitment to fostering innovation and excellence in surgery. As the new editors-in-chief, we are excited to guide *Surgical Innovation* into its next chapter, and we look forward to your partnership in this endeavor.

¹Digestive Disease Institute, Department of General Surgery, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH, USA

²Department of Surgery, Amsterdam UMC, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

³Amsterdam Gastroenterology and Metabolism, Amsterdam UMC, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

⁴Amsterdam Public Health, Digital Health, Amsterdam UMC, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Corresponding Author:

Matthew Kroh, MD, FACS, FASMBS, FASGE, Digestive Disease Institute, Department of General Surgery, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH, USA.

Email: kroh@ccf.org

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