

## **A Note from the Editor-in-Chief**

“Rapidly-changing and highly-interdisciplinary, paleopathology has long been represented across an expanse of academic journals exploring issues of health in the past. Anatomists, biomedical researchers, bioarchaeologists, and clinicians among us – we are a cast of characters from many scientific disciplines, and a field of remarkable breadth. We are also a discipline charged to bring a deep time perspective to the rigorous challenges facing medical science and global health today. This is reflected in the motto of the Paleopathology Association, our sponsoring organization, ‘Mortui viventes docent’, which may be translated as “the dead teach the living”.

Acknowledging the strength of this breadth, the *International Journal of Paleopathology (IJP)* carves out a dedicated academic space for communication, collaborations and cutting-edge research in paleopathology – human and non-human.

As the new editor-in-chief of *IJP*, I am energized by the challenge of creating an academic journal format that seeks to encourage research and foster interdisciplinary communication. As the only dedicated paleopathology journal in the community, we are extremely proud to have the designation of *Official Journal of the Paleopathology Association*. And while it may be no small task ahead, I am excited and privileged to be working with a talented and diverse editorial board of professionals whose expertise reflects the diversity of the field itself.

Looking ahead to our first year, we will be publishing a series of inaugural essays by leading paleopathologists focusing on General Paleopathology, the History of Paleopathology, Non-human Paleopathology, and Mummy Science. The issues of *IJP* will include articles, case studies, book reviews, technical notes and brief communications on topics such as ancient animal and human health, dental disease, historical paleopathology, imaging technologies, paleohistology, and paleoparasitology.

With that overview, I look forward to sharing our first issue – and to fostering the possibilities for research connections that we hope to support with this new journal. Please plan to submit your own cutting edge research to the *IJP* and thus ensure that your articles reach the diverse, knowledgeable, and global readership that they deserve.”

**Jane E. Buikstra**

Editor-in-Chief, *International Journal of Paleopathology*