
Editorial

A sad farewell



The final edition of our journal for this year closes a few chapters in the history of the *Southern African Journal of Anaesthesia and Analgesia* (SAJAA), and heralds the start of an exciting future, with a new international publisher joining forces with Medpharm Publications, and Bruce Biccard becoming the new Editor-in-Chief. This will be my final editorial after 13 years at

the helm, and it is a very sad one for me as we bid farewell and celebrate the life of our friend and publisher, Dr Douw Greeff. Douw died on 11 November, five days after celebrating his 40th birthday.

In 2005, Douw phoned me one day and asked if the SAJAA was perhaps interested in looking at another publisher, namely Medpharm Publications. At the time, the SAJAA was not owned by the South African Society of Anaesthesiologists (SASA), and after much discussion, the SASA decided to take ownership of

our journal. There were many lengthy negotiations on copyright issues, and finally the SAJAA was owned by the SASA, and became one of the flagship publications in the Medpharm Publications stable in 2007.

Douw was a fantastic publisher. His energy, enthusiasm and positive nature ensured that deadlines were met, even under pressure, and especially when it came to Congress editions. He always had fresh and innovative ideas with regard to making the SAJAA more appealing to our members and our readership. At our editorial board meeting last year, he presented various options for joining international publishers in order to raise the bar for our South African journal. That vision and dream has been achieved, and the SAJAA is now being published by Medpharm Publications, together with Taylor and Francis. I so wish that Douw was still alive to celebrate the fruits of his labour.

I trust that our members and readers will enjoy the varied submissions in this edition. I wish you all a safe and happy festive period, and a peaceful and successful 2015.

Christina Lundgren

Editor-in-Chief