Letter from the Editor

M. Grunze
AVS Publication Committee

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The printed Volume 2 edition of Biointer*phases* includes 26 papers published in 2007 online. As compared to our first year, we had an increase in submissions and a significant increase in visits and downloads of articles from our web page. Requests for our papers are steadily rising, as is the number of users downloading articles from the website which is now in the four digit numbers. Readers (and requests for downloads) come from all over the world, with Germany and Japan holding the lead. Biointer*phases* is recognized more and more as a high quality journal in the field of biological and biomedical interphases, but before Biointer*phases* is *the* journal in the field, some hurdles must still be overcome. One is an increase in submissions in order to become economically sustainable. A second involves increasing readership to justify the publication model we choose for Biointer*phases* that involves integrating the international community in this field. So, how will we try to achieve these goals and what can you, as a reader, expect for the coming year?

The download statistics clearly show that review articles receive a high level of attention, as exemplified by M. Maccarinis review on "Water at solid surfaces" (p. MR1). Hence, in the next year(s) Biointer*phases* will publish, with the help of several outstanding and respected guest editors, "Focus" articles on areas of interest and dispute in the biomaterials and biointerfaces community, such as tethered membranes, synchrotron and neutron studies on biointerphases, plasmon resonance techniques, and water behavior within soft interphases. Each issue will include reviews and original articles focused on experimental and theoretical studies pursuant to this field. All articles will reflect the state-of-the-art in experimental and theoretical biointerphase science, and we hope will be construed as a valuable resource to the community.

Enjoy reading Volume 2 of Biointer*phases*. You will find a review on water at solid surfaces, and several papers showing the progress in understanding lipid bilayers and protein adsorption, new experimental approaches to study cell adhesion, and careful experiments to characterize the interaction of biological polymers with artificial surfaces.

