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Editor talk

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The purpose of a scientific journal is to provide an outlet for new knowledge in science and technology. Nowadays, there are probably hundreds of this kind of journal worldwide, so why another one? The justification for this may vary from case to case. In ours, first of all, we think that the fact that there are already a lot of scientific journals available is not really the reason for withholding the birth of yet another journal, in the same way as that the presence of a lot of good people should not be the cause for stopping us to be good ourselves. This is probably one reason why there still is a number of new journals appearing every year around the world, apart from the fact that specialized fields still abound waiting for more new appropriate journals to take care of.

Again, in our case, we believe in the general principle that the more choices there are of anything, so much the better. Thus, at the very least, this journal, the brainchild of Maejo University, will serve as the one its staff can fall back on as a last resort. However, this is not to say that we are willing to behave as one at the expense of the minimum requirements as accepted in general for a good journal. As a matter of fact, this is the first peer-reviewed journal of Maejo University. It is also one of the first open-access electronic journals in this country, which are fully and readily available online (as well as in print later).

All in all, the launching of a new journal is obviously not as easy task, especially for an online journal. Apart from the normal cooperation of many people from various academic institutions, both local and abroad, and the invaluable help from the private sectors, it also requires an expertise of a special kind. The most crucial factor to the success of a journal, however, is the confidence of contributors (particularly the pioneer ones) to the journal. Regarding this, we are therefore grateful to all of them who contribute their articles to this first issue of the journal, and we invite every academic fellow, both local and international, to publish in our new journal.