

Honoring the past, preparing the future

This issue of *Forum for Nordic Dermato-Venereology* is sad, but also marks major changes.

First of all two prominent dermatologists, Professor Lennart Juhlin of Uppsala, and Professor Jan Wahlberg of Stockholm, are no longer among us. They cannot be replaced; neither as colleagues and professionals nor as people and friends. This issue of *Forum for Nordic Dermato-Venereology* includes obituary notes prepared by their close co-operators. Professor Lennart Juhlin was the initiator of *Forum for Nordic Dermato-Venereology* as a popular offspring of *Acta Dermato-Venereologica*, and he served since the beginning as honorary editor.

Acta Dermato-Venereologica, established 85 years ago, ranks among the classical dermatology journals. It

serves Nordic dermatology well since decades. However, the medical publication industry has undergone major changes, and one printing house may today have collected some 500–1000 journals under one organization. Research publication has become very complicated and many kinds of experts are involved. The big publishers develop common platforms for many journals and rationalize their production and promotion this way. Building on platforms also makes individual journals less vulnerable. The changing editors operate from their own offices with no or little editorial staff, and the editor is not burdened with production, business and promotion, which he would, in any case, not be good at. *Acta Dermato-Venereologica* has a well-equipped Uppsala office shared with *Forum for Nordic Dermato-Venereology*. *Forum for Nordic Dermato-Venereology* has since the beginning been produced by this office, including layout and production. *Acta Dermato-Venereologica* has, until now, been produced by Taylor

and Francis Company by the use of their platform for medical journals. It has under the influence of economical necessity been decided that *Acta Dermato-Venereologica* from 2006 shall be fully operated from the Uppsala office including production, distribution and promotion. At the same time, the journal will be re-shaped and face the needs of tomorrow. This courageous process is further described in this number of *Forum for Nordic Dermato-Venereology*. It is a historical decision against the mainstream development in global publication business, a major risk but also a great challenge. Very much depends on the Uppsala office now and in the decades to come. May it be granted with success.



Jørgen Serup

Chief editor