

Comment on the history of Acta Gastro-Enterologica Belgica

P.P. Michielsens

Antwerp University Hospital, Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, University of Antwerp, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Antwerp, Belgium.

To the Editor

I read with interest the article of T. Moreels et al. in the last issue of Acta Gastro-Enterologica Belgica on the history of the Journal (1). It was suggested that I was designated as the first Flemish Editor-in-Chief by the 'Vlaamse Vereniging voor Gastro-enterologie' (VVGE). In fact, before 2009 the Acta was a part of the "Société Belge de Gastro-Entérologie" (SRBGE). The intention to make the Acta again the Journal of the whole Belgian gastroenterological community was already prepared earlier by the Editors Jean Henrion, Olivier Le Moine and Pierre Deprez. According to the former statutes of the SRBGE, the Deputy Editor and Editor-in-Chief had to be member of the Board of the SRBGE. As I was member of that Society since 1995, as were many Flemish gastroenterologists, I was asked by Jean Henrion and Olivier Le Moine, to apply for the Board of the SRBGE. Although being Flemish, I was elected by the members of the SRBGE in 2005 and served there for 8 years. During 4 years I was Deputy Editor. In 2009 I succeeded Pierre Deprez as Editor-in-Chief, for 2 years, according to the statutes the newly created non-profit organization Acta Gastro-Enterologica Belgica. I was succeeded by Peter

Stärkel in 2011, who was also appointed by the SRBGE. The first Deputy Editor designated by the VVGE was Daniel Urbain, who became Editor-in Chief in 2013. I continued to serve as Board member of the SRBGE till 2013. I keep excellent memories of my collaboration with the other Board members during my term. Finally, I am proud that I was given the opportunity to participate in the process enlarging the scope of Acta to a scientific forum for reporting original research in gastroenterology and publishing invited reviews and medical guidelines at a Belgian national as well as international level (2).

Sincerely,

Peter Michielsens
Editor-in-Chief, Acta Gastro-Enterologica Belgica,
2009-2011.

References

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2. LANTHIER N., MOREELS T.G. The future of Acta Gastro-Enterologica Belgica. *Acta Gastroenterol Belg.*, 2019, **82** : 3-4.

Correspondence to : Prof. P. P. Michielsens, Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, University Hospital Antwerp, Wilrijkstraat 10, B-2650 Edegem, Belgium. Tel +3238214794. Fax +3238214478
E-mail : peter.michielsens@uza.be

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