

*From the Editors*

The North American Forensic Entomology Association (NAFEA) began as a group of like-minded scientists wishing to exchange ideas and research in forensic entomology. Since its inception, members have wished for a journal specifically tailored to showcase the incredible work and innovations of the forensic entomology community, as a central repository for all data, results, and conclusions that impact the field of forensic entomology. And so, we have created the Journal of Forensic Entomology, and open access opportunity for our current and future members. This is our first foray into the wild world of open access publishing, and it would not have been possible without a dedicated membership and a stellar group of authors.

Starting a journal is hard. It's especially difficult to craft a journal that may be used by professionals and amateurs alike, and that will not be limited by paywalls or copyright issues. Since the announcement of the Journal of Forensic Entomology and the initial call for papers in 2020 we have hit roadblock after roadblock, dealt with hackers and spam, and attempted to quickly master the arts of both open access coding and copy editing in our spare time. The results have been mixed, yet we have made it to this end.

We, the co-Editors-in-Chief of the Journal of Forensic Entomology (JFE) proudly announce our preview issue. This issue contains papers which authors and editors decided were necessary to include in the published literature sooner rather than later, and the issue represents pre-prints of the paper leading up to the official Volume 1, Issue 1. We are exceptionally proud of the authors, reviewers, editors, and other help over the past two years that made this pre-print possible. Thank you to everyone for your hard work and patience as we waded our way into the depths of scientific publishing.

Within the next few months, we will be finalizing the official first volume of the journal. We are looking forward to finally reaching this goal, nearly 20 years in the making, and we cannot thank the membership of NAFEA enough. Thank you all for your help. Thank you all for your patience. Thank you all for your hard work. Primarily, thank you all for being a part of the forensic entomology community. Here's to the future!

Co-Editors-in-Chief

Dr. Adrienne Brundage

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