

Letter of support to Bruce's AIMR ROS comment

October 2002

Bruce,

I wholeheartedly agree with the value of conflict of interest standards for AIMR publications: it would be an excellent precedent to set for a wide variety of academic and scholarly journals -- witness the not-especially-recent troubles with various medical and scientific journals.

I must confess, however, that due to time constraints I can neither endorse nor comment on your particular expanded ROS or even on AIMR's ROS. Nor can I comment on the specific concerns and problems at FAJ.

Nonetheless, I did want to take the time to express my support for extending conflict of interest standards and some version of an ROS explicitly to AIMR publications and research efforts. The medical, scientific, and academic community as a whole has long relied on an unspoken honor system which has worked with varying degrees of success over the years. I would be very pleased to see AIMR take the lead in making some such "honor system" explicit and a public component of its image.

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