

JFAR Editor's Message

As the incoming editor of the *Journal of Forensic Accounting Research (JFAR)*, I take this opportunity to wish you a happy, healthy, safe and prosperous New Year! First and foremost, I would like to thank Professor Charles Bailey for getting *JFAR* started and maintaining its good quality. My sincere gratitude is to the Forensic Accounting Section (FAS) of the AAA for reposing confidence in my scholarly abilities to serve as *JFAR* Editor.

As part of my priority tasks when taking on the *JFAR* helm, I am planning to continue prior efforts to expand the Journal's scope while simultaneously improving the quality and enhancing the quantity of submissions. I know this is a tall order and therefore, I am looking for the collective support of the AAA Forensic Accounting Section in achieving this desirable outcome.

I expect to be in St. Louis for the 2019 Forensic Accounting Section Research Conference from March 1-2 and will seek your advice in developing an effective strategic plan for advancing and sustaining *JFAR*.

My strategic plan for *JFAR* includes the following:

1. Pursue the Journal's mission in advancing "a forum for the timely dissemination of advances in research, education, and practice in forensic accounting and related disciplines," and promoting "excellence in the research, teaching, and practice of forensic accounting, with a balance among basic research, practice, and education."
2. Commission several special issues on "fraud", "non-fraud", "behavioral" and digital forensic accounting. I will reach out to colleagues and commission them to produce a 2-3-page overview of the area(s) they wish to emphasize in the journal as "guest editors."
3. Meet with associate editors in March 2019 at the Midyear meeting to discuss our challenges and opportunities and finalize our strategic plan. As a respected AAA Section Journal, I am well-aware of the challenges in obtaining a high-quality reputation for *JFAR* that could be viewed in comparison with peer AAA journals (e.g., *Auditing, Accounting Horizons, Issues in Accounting Education*). These challenges can motivate us, the editorial team, to strive for obtaining, reviewing, and publishing high quality forensic accounting articles.
4. Expand the depth and breadth of *JFAR* by publishing not only fraud-related manuscripts but also non-fraud high-quality manuscripts on valuations, economic damages, litigation support services, and other emerging topics in forensic accounting. After all, forensic accounting covers subject matter of broad scope, well beyond just fraud.
5. Promote the "international/global perspective" of *JFAR* by encouraging submissions worldwide.
6. Increase number of Associate Editors to ensure timely, vigorous and robust review process.

When we are successful with these initiatives, we will be able to build a case for inclusion in the indexes. I suggest considering the Social Science Citation Index (SSCI) to get the Impact Factor soon. To take the journal international, we need to get ranking in international and regional databases including SSRN, Web of Science, Scopus, CABS (UK), ABDC (Australia), CNRS (France) and VHB (Germany) amongst others.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any suggestions for maintaining sustainability of *JFAR*. I am counting on your support!

Best regards,

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