Dear GA Members,

Lots of things are always happening around our two official journals, *Planta Medica* and *Planta Medica International Open (PMIO)*, and we are delighted to bring you the first GA “Planta Medica” newsletter.

**Journal Impact Factor:** This bit of great news first! *Planta Medica* scored a whopping **2.494** at the recent impact factor – it’s best result so far! Both the GA Board and the Editor-in-Chief, Professor Veronika Butterweck, together with the Editors and the publisher, are very pleased with this result. And, of course, everybody is doubling their efforts to build on this wonderful result to achieve an even better Impact Factor in the coming years’ assessments.

In fact, the day-long **Editorial Board Meeting** held just shortly after the release of the official Impact Factor in Florence, Italy, focused very much on a detailed analysis of the data and made many a strategic decision for the journal.

Below you can see the editorial board members, the GA president and the Thieme partners during a much-needed break in the beautiful 15th century "giardino dei semplici" annexed to the Hospital of Santa Maria Nuova, the oldest hospital still active in Florence, founded in 1288 by Folco Portinari, the father of Beatrice beloved by Dante Alighieri.

The GA thanks *Planta Medica*’s Editor-in-Chief Veronika Butterweck, the editorial board members and Regina Wenzel and Salvatore Brighina from Thieme Publishers for their attendance and contribution to support *Planta Medica*!

The **definitive highlight** of the board meeting, however, was the moving little ceremony for the "Most Innovative Paper Award": this year, it took place during the editorial board meeting dinner. The deserving winner was the group around Professor Dr. RuAngelie Edrada-Ebel of the University of Strathclyde for their outstanding contribution “Metabolomics-Guided Isolation of Anti-Trypanosomal Metabolites from the Endophytic Fungus *Lasiodiplodia theobromae*”. Click [here](#) to read this award-winning paper. Professor Edrada-Ebel received the prize – worth EUR 1,500 – on behalf of her team and, as you can see, she was happy to do so!
And finally: Sporting its hot-off-the-press “Women in Natural Product Science” special issue, Planta Medica visited the ASP and stayed at the top #asp2018 #badassladyscience for the whole of the conference!

There will be more news about Planta Medica during the upcoming annual GA Conference in Shanghai – see you all there!

Cordially,

GA President

Planta Medica Editorial Board

Support your journals! Submit to Planta Medica or to PMIO (for your more regionally-focused papers or manuscripts out of scope of Planta Medica).