Few candidates have been as prepared and qualified as the newly appointed Editor-in-Chief of Stroke, Marc Fisher, who will be taking over the helm and receiving new manuscripts as of July 1, 2010.

**Professional Background**
Marc obtained a Bachelor of Science in Biology and Medicine from Cornell University and his MD degree from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Syracuse.

He then interned at the University of Wisconsin Hospitals and trained in neurology at the Medical Center Hospital of Vermont. He began and continues his faculty career at the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester Massachusetts, where he is a full Professor and Vice-Chairman of the Department of Neurology.

**Research**
Marc is among a minority of stroke investigators with equal ease in experimental and clinical work. He has been involved in translational research long before the term became fashionable. He has a long track record in performing MRI-based experiments in rat stroke models to evaluate the presence and evolution of the ischemic penumbra. Using diffusion/perfusion MRI, his experimental group has evaluated the effects of therapies on the progression of the diffusion/perfusion mismatch. Recently, they have shown that high-flow 100% oxygen therapy initiated early after embolic stroke in rats markedly inhibits the expansion of the ischemic core or diffusion imaging and extended the time window for successful reperfusion. Marc has extensive experience in organizing and implementing clinical acute stroke therapy trials, with a particular interest in imaging-based trials. He has performed these trials with coinvestigators at multiple sites around the world.

He also serves as the principal organizer of the Stroke Therapy Academic Industry (STAIR) conferences, which bring together investigators, representatives of pharmaceutical and device-making companies and members of the Federal Drug Administration to recommend better ways of carrying out basic research and ultimately testing it in clinical trials.

He has published extensively with over 230 peer-reviewed articles and has edited or coedited 11 books.

**Editorial Experience**
When I became Editor-in-Chief, I asked Marc to become a Section Editor. He did such an outstanding job that I asked him to coordinate the work of all the Sections. Under Marc’s careful guidance, the *Advances in Stroke* have become an annual feature, highlighting the important developments in the field. Marc was active in assisting me with the introduction of the *Stroke in Chinese* Edition. His most recent contribution has been the establishment of a small committee to act as a liaison between *Stroke* and the International Stroke Conference (ISC) and to identify the most outstanding ISC abstracts. In 2007 I asked him to become an Associate Editor, a role in which he has excelled.

**The Future**
The field of stroke is growing at an unprecedented rate, driven by its increasing prevalence, technological advances, and the rise of new economies. Increasingly, publication is becoming digital and multimedia, buffeted between rising costs of sophisticated online media and the expectations of free access. Although *Stroke* has become the preeminent publication in the field by a large margin, it has worthy and growing competition.

Few in our field are as fit to face the challenges and grasp the new opportunities as Marc Fisher. Marc’s broad and successful professional background, his ability to work with people of different disciplines, personalities and countries, and his clear vision for *Stroke* makes me confident that he will take the journal to new heights.

Once before, Marc succeeded me in a job. I was director of a course on stroke for the American Academy of Neurology for many years. When my term ended, I handed over to Marc and never looked back. This time I will hand over to Marc, and will look forward. It will be exciting!