Editorial: *Physical Review X*: First Five Years and Beyond

As of March 1st, we have the honor and the pleasure to serve as co-Lead Editors of *Physical Review X* (PRX), succeeding Jorge Pullin, who served as PRX's first Lead Editor with extraordinary commitment. Today, May 4th, PRX is celebrating its fifth anniversary. In five years it has become one of the leading physics journals worldwide. We would like to take this opportunity to warmly thank Jorge for the crucial role he played in this success and congratulate him on this achievement. Having taken the baton from him, we will do our best to work together with the editorial team and the American Physical Society (APS) to support PRX's continued rise in quality, impact, and stature.

PRX already has a few defining features. Its high selectivity, small size, and open-access model combine to provide high visibility and unlimited readership for each individual article. Unusual among high-profile journals, it offers researchers ample space and flexible format to present their frontier results in a form that can engage and inform a broad audience without sacrificing the scientific substance sought by specialists. Its personalized editorial process strives to bring as much openness, substance, and collegiality as possible into the dialogue between authors, referees, and editors. Finally, as a journal published by a society of physicists (APS) it promotes open access and high quality under the non-profit principle.

Our goal is to build and expand on these strengths, as we believe that they represent some of the fundamental values in scientific publishing that the physics community keenly wants to preserve. We intend to keep PRX's size small, at a few hundred papers a year. At the same time we will expand its coverage to include certain core areas of physics that have not yet been strongly represented, as well as interdisciplinary areas where physics is interfacing actively and fruitfully with other disciplines. We also aim to further increase the journal's impact and standing by seeking to publish results of exceptional quality and importance and conveying them effectively to a global readership.

To achieve our goal, we will increase our efforts to reach out to different research communities through more visits to institutions and active participation in both general and topical conferences by the editors and the members of the Editorial Board. These efforts will help us broaden and strengthen our ongoing dialogue with the community and ensure that its needs are reflected in PRX's further growth and development.

PRX has seen a strong rise in submissions during the last three years. This growth clearly indicates that the journal fulfills an important need of the community. At the same time it makes it even more challenging than before to maintain the efficient and interactive editorial and review process that has been a signature of PRX so far. We believe that the answer to this challenge lies first and foremost with the community we serve: We ask authors to continue sending us their best papers and ask our referees for their continued support through prompt, informative, and balanced reviews. We will expand the current Editorial Board and seek its even more active involvement in the journal. We will soon have in place a new "fast track" for articles that we consider to be important breakthroughs.

We have hard work ahead of us. But we are not alone in our effort. PRX's commitment to scientific quality and substance is shared by the physics community at large. We believe that we will have its continued support for our mission to publish PRX in the best tradition of the *Physical Review* journals.

M. Cristina Marchetti
Jean-Michel Raimond
Editors

Published 4 May 2016
DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevX.6.020001](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevX.6.020001)