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SLAS to Rename its Scientific Journals in 2017

CHICAGO – The two internationally recognized, MEDLINE-indexed and Journal Citation Reports-ranked scientific journals owned by SLAS (Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening) will change their names in 2017:

FROM: *Journal of Biomolecular Screening* (JBS)
TO: **SLAS Discovery** (Advancing Life Sciences R&D)

FROM: *Journal of Laboratory Automation* (JALA)
TO: **SLAS Technology** (Translating Life Sciences Innovation)

2017 will be the 22nd year of publication for both journals. Since they were founded in 1996, they have maintained relevant leadership positions by evolving in lock-step with the dynamic life sciences discovery and technology community. These name changes reflect this evolution and more accurately express today's SLAS and its critical position at the nexus of life sciences research and technology.

“Together the SLAS journals do an outstanding job of pioneering the range of issues and priorities important to the success of life sciences R&D professionals,” says SLAS President Richard Eglen, Ph.D., of Corning Life Sciences (USA). “The new names simply are more accurate reflections of what has been and is being published in them.”

For example, “JBS is about much more than high-throughput screening,” says JBS Editor-in-Chief Robert M. Campbell, Ph.D., of Eli Lilly and Company (USA). “JBS reports how scientists develop and utilize novel technologies and/or approaches to provide and characterize chemical and biological tools to understand and treat human disease.” Likewise, says JALA Editor-in-Chief Edward Kai-Hua Chow, Ph.D., of the Cancer Science Institute of Singapore and Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine at the National University of Singapore, “JALA encompasses considerably more than robotics and liquid handling. JALA explores ways in which scientists adapt advancements in technology for scientific exploration and experimentation.”

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“*SLAS Discovery* and *SLAS Technology* will continue to be backed by the world-class education standards of SLAS,” says Eglén. “Our journals demand rigorous peer review. They are published with hands-on leadership and involvement of practicing life sciences professionals – editorial board members, manuscript authors, manuscript reviewers; respected experts with first-hand knowledge and experience. More than 1,000 of them engage with our journals every year and will continue to do so. In addition, SAGE Publishing will continue as our well established and highly regarded publishing partner.”

The decision to update the names of the SLAS journals was made after more than two years of research and consideration by members of the SLAS Journals Strategic Planning Task Forces, SLAS Americas Council, SLAS Europe Council and SLAS Board of Directors. The results of a series of stakeholder surveys reinforced the perceptions and misperceptions that led to the recommended changes. “Authors, editorial board members, readers and even advertisers agreed that the existing names were incongruent with what SLAS is and what’s published in its journals,” says Eglén. The editorial focus and scope of the journals are not changing.

“The SLAS scientific journals are high-value priorities of the Society and the publishing program stands in good stead with an ongoing commitment to best practices and continuous quality improvement,” says Eglén. “The new names are fresh, crisp and clear, and they reinforce the relationship between the journals and the Society and their shared educational priorities.”

For more information about SLAS and its journals, visit www.slas.org/publications/scientific-journals.

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SLAS (Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening) is an international community of more than 27,000 individual scientists, engineers, researchers, technologists and others from academic, government and commercial laboratories. The SLAS mission is to be the preeminent global organization providing forums for education and information exchange and to encourage the study of, and improve the practice of life sciences discovery and technology. For more information, visit www.SLAS.org.

Journal of Biomolecular Screening (JBS): 2015 Impact Factor 2.218. Editor-in-Chief Robert M. Campbell, Ph.D., Eli Lilly and Company, Indianapolis, IN (USA). In 2017, JBS’s title will change to ***SLAS Discovery*** (Advancing Life Sciences R&D).

Journal of Laboratory Automation (JALA): 2015 Impact Factor 1.297. Editor-in-Chief Edward Kai-Hua Chow, Ph.D., National University of Singapore (Singapore). In 2017, JALA’s title will change to ***SLAS Technology*** (Translating Life Sciences Innovation).