

Editorial

Due to the untimely death of Dr. Jacques Gielen, Editor-in-Chief, earlier this year, the Editorial Board of *Biochemical Pharmacology* has been reorganized. The journal is fortunate in that Dr. Gielen, and his predecessor Dr. Alan Sartorelli, left their successors a strong and growing legacy to build upon. I am privileged to be asked to replace Dr. Gielen, and will make every effort to sustain the reputation of the journal as a primary source of timely and topical information in the field. The other members of the Editorial Board are Dr. Jacques Piette of Liège University, who will serve as Editor, and Dr. Michael Williams, of Cephalon in Philadelphia, the Commentaries Editor. We want to thank Dr. Harold Behrman, the previous Commentaries Editor, for his years of service to the journal.

As we move forward the Editorial Board and I will continue to implement the changes Dr. Gielen initiated last year in an effort to reduce the time for manuscript review and production, to broaden the scope of the journal, and to enhance the overall quality of the offering. To this end, we are working with the Elsevier Electronic Submission Implementation and Support staff in Shannon, Ireland to install by the end of this year a Web based program to handle manuscript submission, review, and tracking. Full utilization of this system will significantly reduce the time from submission to an editorial decision, and from receipt of a revised manuscript to publication. We are broadening the scope of the journal by soliciting Commentaries and research reports from experts in all subdisciplines of pharmacology. Emphasis will be placed on publishing work dealing with the biochemical and molecular mechanisms of action of endogenous substances, drugs and other xenobiotics, including toxic agents. While we will work to continue to attract outstanding manuscripts in the areas of chemotherapy, inflammation, and immunopharmacology, which have been the mainstays of the journal for years, we hope to also increase the number of articles dealing with research in cardiovascular pharmacology, neuropharmacology, drug

absorption, distribution and metabolism, toxicology, endocrine, gastrointestinal, respiratory, and urinogenital pharmacology. In brief, *Biochemical Pharmacology* is devoted to publishing reviews and research reports dealing with mechanisms relating to both the pharmacodynamic and pharmacokinetic properties of drugs and other agents of toxicological or therapeutic importance. To help accomplish this, 20 experts representing various subdisciplines in the field were recently recruited to the Editorial Advisory Board. These individuals, along with the 34 other members of this group, will be taking a more active role in recruiting and authoring manuscripts for the journal. This participation will help maintain the quality of publications and ensure breadth of coverage in the field.

Another change that will be noticed by regular readers is in the subfield designations used for assigning papers for review and for posting in the Table of Contents. These have been modified to emphasize more precisely the major areas of interest to the journal. (For a complete list of the revised sections please consult the 'Notes for Contributors' at the end of this issue.)

With this issue the new Editorial Board and Editorial Advisory Board formally assume responsibility for the journal. We wish to thank Ms. Joke Jaarsma, the Elsevier representative to the journal, and her colleagues for their guidance, support, and advice during this transition. We also want to thank you, our readers and authors, for your support of *Biochemical Pharmacology*. In the end, it is primarily your efforts and loyalty that will ensure the continued success of the journal. Please don't hesitate to contact me or Ms. Lynn LeCount in the Kansas City editorial office (e-mail bp@kumc.edu, tel. 1-913-588-7533) if you have any comments or suggestions concerning journal content or operations. The Editorial Board and I look forward to working with you.

S.J. Enna, Ph.D. (Editor-in-Chief)