

# Biochemistry

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## EDITORIAL

My annual editorial has been delayed this year in order to wait for the announcement of the availability of electronic journal archives by the American Chemical Society. The ACS has scanned the entire set of journal archives so that an electronic version of all journals from their inception will soon be available. To maintain some control of the electronic archives and to provide for their maintenance, a nominal annual subscription fee will be charged to libraries for the electronic archives, a maximum of \$4500 for a single site for all of the journals (approximately 30). Special arrangements will be made for small schools and third world countries. The details of the pricing remain to be worked out. Current subscribers to an electronic journal receive the current year plus access to the four previous years. This arrangement is somewhat different from those of our competitors where the archive maintenance costs are rolled into current subscription prices and the archives are freely available after one year or less, but the practical effect will be to make the archives available to virtually all scientists.

This past year has seen a small drop in the number of manuscripts submitted, a few percent, but the quality of the published work has been maintained. With considerable regret, I inform you that Clare Woodward has resigned as an Associate Editor. We are indebted to her for the fine job she has done. Fortunately, Jill Trewhella agreed to step in and assumed the position of Associate Editor on March 1, 2002.

We now encourage the submission of all manuscripts via the web. We are currently receiving about half of our manuscripts through this mechanism. An improved version of the software for the submission process will be available within a few months. As an added attraction to the electronic journal, it is now possible to obtain all of the *Current Topics* that have been published as a single entity from the home page. They are sorted by year. The number of *Current Topics* has been steadily increasing: we would like at least 25 per year. If you are interested in submitting a short timely review of a topic in biochemistry, please let me know.

Due to a production error, the current Instructions to Authors appears in the first issue in February, rather than in the first issue in January. In response to several requests, we encourage authors to include the titles of articles in the reference list, as detailed in the Instructions to Authors. This will not, however, be a requirement for publication. To keep down the cost of this change in policy, the type size for the references will be reduced slightly, effective July 1, 2002.

We hope this will be another banner year for *Biochemistry*. This depends entirely on you, the authors and reviewers. Thank you for your support.

Gordon G. Hammes

*Editor*  
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