

Editorial

Update from the Editorial office of the *European Journal of Pharmaceutics and Biopharmaceutics*

European Journal of Pharmaceutics and Biopharmaceutics (EJPB) has become one of the leading pharmaceutical journals in Europe. Its quality, as measured by impact factor¹, has consistently increased over the past decade. Its most recent value of over 1.5 is among the best of the pharmaceutical journals published in Europe.

This consistent increase in performance is derived from authors all over the world contributing to the journal and from the tremendous efforts of the editorial team. Along with the European Editors, Prof G. Lee and Prof C.M. Lehr, the Asian Editor, Prof Y. Kawashima, and the US Editor, Prof J. McGinity, I would like to mention my Assistant Editor, Dr Florence Delie, working in the Geneva office. She has done a fantastic job over the years. Dr Delie has recently been promoted within the School of Pharmacy of Geneva and because of this she will no longer have sufficient time to manage the day-to-day activities of the journal. As of October 1, 2002, she will hand over her responsibilities to Dr Michael Moeller, who graduated from the University of Marburg in Germany and is currently working on novel biopolymers for drug delivery at the School of Pharmacy in Geneva, Switzerland. The present issue of *EJPB* will be the last one coordinated by Dr Delie. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all her efforts and dedication to the journal.

I am pleased to announce that Prof Achim Goepferich from the University of Regensburg, Germany, has accepted our invitation to become one of the European Editors at the beginning of 2003. I would like to thank him for accepting this challenge. This will significantly strengthen our editorial team.

When I assumed the editorship some years ago, I set as a goal for *EJPB* an impact factor of 1.5. This target has now been achieved and the new challenge will be to play a major role among the world leading journals. In order to reach this new goal, an impact factor of over 2.0 within the next years has to be reached. As always, my fellow editors and I are committed to accepting only manuscripts of the highest quality. In this regard, I thank the members of the Editorial Advisory Board for actively participating in manuscript review.

During the past years we have rejected over one third of the submitted papers, which, we feel, reflects the rigor of our peer review process. At the same time, the number of manuscripts submitted has increased by over 30%.

What identity should *EJPB* project in the future? The focus should be directed to the following areas: pharmaceutical technology, pharmaceutical engineering, materials science, formulation development, pharmaceutical processing, biopharmaceutics, pharmacokinetics, quality control, physical pharmacy and the many others mentioned in the aims and scope of *EJPB*.

To remain a leading pharmaceutical journal *EJPB* must constantly look for new areas in pharmaceutical sciences. These may include fields like pharmaceutical biotechnology, nanotechnology, and microprocessor-based drug delivery.

In order to reach one of these goals we have recently signed an agreement with the European Association of Pharmaceutical Biotechnology, currently headed by Prof Rainer Müller. Starting in early 2003, a section of our journal will be devoted to 'Pharmaceutical Biotechnology' which will be prepared with the help of Dr G. Walsh, at the University of Limerick, Ireland.

I am optimistic about the future of *EJPB*. I thank all of you for your support over the years and ask for your continual input in order to make *EJPB* your premier journal for your publications.

In return, I pledge to work with all of you to continuously improve the quality of *EJPB*. I also pledge to work with my fellow editors and members of the Editorial Advisory Board to further strengthen the mission of *EJPB*, the official journal of the European Association of Pharmaceutical Technology (APV) based in Mainz, Germany. Above all, I would like to thank APV and the publisher Elsevier Science for their continuous support.

Let's work towards a great pharmaceutical journal with a worldwide audience.

Robert Gurny
Editor-in-Chief

Department of Pharmaceutical Technology and
Biopharmaceutics, School of Pharmacy, University of
Geneva, 30, Quai Ernest-Ansermet, CH-1211 Geneva 4,
Switzerland

¹ Impact factor is the ratio of citations of recent articles to the number of total articles published over a given period.

E-mail address: robert.gurny@pharm.unige.ch (R. Gurny).