

Editorial

As many of you will know, at the end of last year, as part of a general plan to harmonise Reed Elsevier's scientific publishing activities, Butterworth-Heinemann Journals including *Polymer* relocated to join Elsevier Science Ltd, in Kidlington, Oxford, UK. Elsevier Science is the largest international publisher of scientific journals in the world and the transfer of *Polymer* offers improved access to greater resources and expertise, especially in areas such as electronic publishing.

Readers will notice a number of changes to the Editorial Board of *Polymer*. These changes reflect new editorial procedures for the handling of *Polymer* and *Polymer Communications* papers outside Japan. To maintain the journal's high standards, and to further reduce the time to publication, a two-tier Editorial Board structure has been introduced. A group of Editors has been invited to join the principal Editorial Board and deal with papers from Europe and the Rest of the World, similar to the way in which the North American and Japanese Editors operate. They will communicate with authors directly, rather than via the publisher. In addition, two Editors who will solely handle *Communications* have been appointed to the principal Editorial Board.

It is a pleasure to announce that Professor Ian Ward, Professor Ian Cowie and Professor Jim Feast have accepted the invitation to become Editors handling *Polymer* papers from Europe and the Rest of the World outside Japan and North America. We are convinced that their expertise, broad understanding of the field and complementary backgrounds will greatly benefit *Polymer* and we wish them well in their new role. In the course of 1995 we hope to appoint an additional Editor in continental Europe. *Polymer* papers from outside North America and Japan should be sent to our new offices in Kidlington, Oxford, from where they will be forwarded to one of these Editors.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those Editors in the UK and mainland Europe who have been very active on behalf of *Polymer* in recent years, for their time and tremendous support. In their new capacity as members of the Editorial Advisory Board we hope they will continue to offer refereeing support to *Polymer*.

In North America we have centralised the address for submission of *Polymer* papers. Authors in North America or Canada wishing to submit a paper to *Polymer* should now send all manuscripts to Professor Ronald Eby, at the University of Akron

It is a pleasure to announce the appointment of Professor Curtis Frank as North American Editor for *Polymer Communications*. Papers for this section from North America should be sent directly to Professor Frank at Stanford University. *Polymer Communications* from Europe and the Rest of the World outside Japan and North America will continue to be handled by Dr Randal Richards, and should be sent to our new address in Kidlington, Oxford. In Japan, Professor Imanishi will still be dealing directly with both *Polymer* and *Polymer Communications* papers. Finally, we would like to welcome Dr W. W. Adams, Dr R. H. Grubbs and Dr G. C. Rutledge as new Editorial Advisory Board members.

We are grateful to our authors, referees and editors for their efforts in ensuring that *Polymer* continues to be one of the leading journals in the polymer field. We would like to wish everybody associated with the journal a happy and successful New Year.

Henri van Dorssen
Senior Publishing Editor