

EDITORIAL

Biomarkers is now into its fourth volume. Its early popularity was reflected in the increasing numbers of high-quality manuscripts submitted, which has allowed its rapid transition from four to six issues per year.

As a result, and in order to accommodate more material within each issue, we have decided to use the allocated space in a more efficient way: for example, the journal will in future use all available pages rather than the articles always starting on a right-hand page. Also, the calendar of events will now be available through the Journal's website, which will allow us to ensure that the most up to date information is listed, complemented by the facility of hyperlinks to the meetings organisers' websites where possible.

A further testament to the Journal's continued growth is the wide geographical spread of the authors' origin: we have had manuscripts from over thirty different countries; also, a number of authors have chosen Biomarkers for more than one of their papers, and a significant number of unsolicited reviews have been submitted.

As this editorial was being written, we received the 1997 impact factors listing; I am delighted to announce that Biomarkers has an impact factor of 1.303, and is ranked 19 out of 63 on the Toxicology list. I am sure you will agree that is a record achievement for such a young journal and that there is no doubt that Biomarkers will be the forum of choice for research in the field.

Please spread the good news to your colleagues, especially when recommending a journal to which to submit their work. Of course, do not forget to recommend Biomarkers to your library. We also have a special reduced rate for individual subscribers, which we hope will increase the popularity of Biomarkers!

I would like to conclude with a note of thanks to those who have helped with peer-review over the past year. Although the majority of the referees are members of the editorial board, we do also call on the services of others and I am grateful to the following for their efforts in this regard over the past year:

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| J Beyer | A Jenner |
| R Bos | B Jurisic |
| S Burgaz | B Lake |
| J Cocker | G Lloyd Jones |
| R T Di Giulio | K Peltonen |
| S Faux | D Phillips |
| P Flammarion | M Raffray |
| F Galgani | D Shuker |
| T Gant | G Steventon |
| G Haenen | P Strickland |

John A. Timbrell