

Editorial

With the publication of this issue, the *European Biophysics Journal* appears in continuation of *Biophysics of Structure and Mechanism*. This development is accompanied by changes in the Editorial Board and a change in format. As successor to Prof. Hennig Stieve, who was the founding editor of *Biophysics of Structure and Mechanism*, I wish to note the growth and achievements of the journal under his direction from 1973 to 1983. Also it is a pleasure to acknowledge the considerable assistance given to the journal during its recent transition phase and to thank the members of the Advisory Board and other colleagues for their continued support in this respect.

It is the intention of the new Editorial Board to maintain the commitment of the journal to represent a wide area of research, from molecular biophysics to the physics of integrated biological structures and living systems. It is well recognised that a common physical approach to the study of biological systems, whether molecular, cellular or physiological, is most successful in establishing the fundamental unity which exists between these different levels of complexity. Central to the future evolution of biophysics are the formulation of physical concepts and the development and refinement of physical techniques which can be applied to the whole range of biological organisation. As may be seen from this issue, these principles will feature significantly in the pages of this journal. We therefore hope that the journal will prove attractive to those engaged in research in specifically biophysical areas and to those who wish to see work of individual and characteristic importance placed in a wider biophysical perspective.

The appearance of the journal coincides with the occurrence of the 8th IUPAB Congress of Biophysics

at a European venue, namely in Bristol, England, from 29 July to 4 August 1984. This Congress illustrates the considerable strength of biophysical research presently performed in the European area, and will attract distinguished participation from the full international scientific community. The Congress also provides the opportunity for a meeting of delegates of a number of national biophysical societies with a view to establishing the formal constitution of the European Biophysical Societies Association (EBSA). The aims of the association are to promote the exchange of information about biophysical activities amongst these societies and to advance and disseminate knowledge of the principles, recent developments and applications of biophysics. The Editors of the journal fully support these aims. Future issues of the journal will therefore contain information on biophysics meetings of interest to the member societies of EBSA, who are hereby invited to use the facility of these editorial pages in order to promote their activities to the benefit of the biophysical community.

Finally, it is hoped that the aims of the journal will receive endorsement from readers and contributors alike. Specific enquiries concerning the journal may be addressed to the editorial office, or directly to members of the Editorial Board. The Editors are pleased to invite submissions of manuscripts within the terms of reference of the journal as indicated on the inside back cover, where the instructions to authors are printed.

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