

## Editorial

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A year has passed since I took over as Chief Editor of the *Glycoconjugate Journal*. One of the first changes made was to increase the size of the Editorial Board from 23 to 37 members. The expertise of the Board now covers a broad area of glycoconjugate research and this has proved most useful in the rapid and, I hope, fair assessment of submitted manuscripts. Most of the papers submitted in the past year have been reviewed within a month of receipt by the Editor. The Editorial Board is also a truly international board as befits the official journal of the International Glycoconjugate Organization. The following countries are represented (in alphabetical order): Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Japan, The Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

The Editorial Board and the Publishers are very proud of the high quality of the papers that have appeared in the six issues of 1994. This quality can only be maintained if you, the readers of the journal, use it to publish your findings. To encourage you to do so, we have organized special issues dedicated to a single area of topical glycoconjugate research. In 1994, Nathan Sharon did a magnificent job of rallying his colleagues in the lectin field and, at the time this is being written, we have accepted 49 papers for the special issue. These papers were or will be published in issue numbers, 4, 5 and 6 of 1994, and numbers 1 and 2 of 1995. Three issues dedicated to special topics in glycoconjugate research are presently being organized for 1995 and 1996. In addition, issue number 4, 1995, will contain the abstracts for the XIIIth International Symposium on Glycoconjugates to be held in Seattle,

Washington, USA, from August 20–26 1995, under the leadership of Sen-itiroh Hakomori.

We have also tried to organize a vigorous Glycopinion section containing Mini-reviews, News items, Announcements and Letters to the Editor. This section is under the guidance of our new Glycopinion Editor Inka Brockhausen who has done her utmost to encourage researchers to submit relevant material. We have had several excellent Mini-reviews but we can always use more. So I encourage all readers to use this section to express their opinions. This is the place where you can test new and perhaps controversial ideas. We are also most grateful for any news of meetings to come, reports of meetings that have passed and news of awards to colleagues in our field.

We enter 1995 with a great deal of optimism for the development of glycobiology and glycoconjugate research. The field is clearly growing rapidly and it is especially encouraging that every day brings new reports of important biological roles for glycoconjugates. I am convinced that speciality journals like the *Glycoconjugate Journal* and other related speciality journals play an important role in the development of the field and deserve your support.

My best wishes to all readers for a healthy, prosperous and successful 1995 and, as always, I am open to criticisms and suggestions for the improvement of the journal.

Best regards,  
**Harry Schachter**  
Chief Editor