

EDITORIAL

The Second Electronic Glycoscience Conference (EGC-2) will be held on September 9–20, 1996. As with the first such conference held last year, EGC-2 will take place on the Internet so that scientists throughout the world will be able to view posters (using a World Wide Web browser) on a range of topics related to carbohydrates and glycoconjugates and discuss them using the computer on their desk by typing in real-time at a Virtual Conference Centre. Barry Hardy (Physical Chemistry Laboratory, Oxford, England) will be in charge of the technical side while Iain Wilson (Universitat für Bodenkultur, Vienna, Austria) will co-ordinate the scientific side with the section conveners.

Glycoconjugate Journal is committed to publishing the material presented on these posters either as full papers or as letters to the editor. Prior to publication, these papers and letters will be subjected to a refereeing process by two experts in the field and authors will be expected to follow their suggestions for revision. The referees will be appointed by EGC-2 section conveners. Manuscripts will be sent to the referees via the Internet and referees may also be asked to take part in the Virtual Conference session relevant to the paper under review. The comments of the section convener and the referee

reports will be sent to Iain Wilson who has been newly appointed as a Glycoconjugate Journal Special Editor in charge of Electronic Conferences. The Special Editor will collate all the recommendations made by the referees and conveners. If the final recommendation is either a clear acceptance with or without minor revisions or a clear rejection, the Special Editor will inform the authors of this decision. If the recommendations are not clear-cut, the various reports will be passed either to Chief Editors Harry Schachter or Graham Turner (both of whom are also section conveners for EGC-2) for a final judgement as to the acceptability of the manuscript.

We hope that the link-up between EGC-2 and Glycoconjugate Journal will result in the publication of high quality papers which will have been subject not only to the usual refereeing procedure but also to a unique electronic reviewing and discussion process. We invite your comments on this new enterprise in electronic publishing.

Iain Wilson
Graham Turner
Harry Schachter