

INTRODUCING THE JOURNAL OF BIOMOLECULAR NMR

During the last decade the use of NMR for studies of biological macromolecules has grown at an unexpectedly fast rate. The determination of NMR structures of small proteins has nearly become routine, ever more sophisticated techniques are developed to enable structure determinations of larger molecular species, special methods are available for studies of multimolecular assemblies, and NMR may well turn out to be among the key experimental approaches for investigations of the protein folding problem. The fundamental importance of the contributions made by NMR is clearly manifested by the large number of specialized Congresses and Symposia in this field, and by the rapidly increasing number of NMR papers in the biochemical and biological literature. Until now, however, we did not have a specialized Journal that would also present details of the experimental and computational techniques that have grown along with the field of biomolecular NMR, and are truly becoming the trademark of our activities. This may concern procedures for isotope-labeling of biological materials, special NMR experiments for work with biological macromolecules, techniques for computer-aided spectral analysis, or procedures for the structural interpretation of NMR data. Starting with the appearance of this first issue of the *Journal of Biomolecular NMR* we now have a forum for the publication of such technical aspects as well as for the presentation of new structures determined by NMR. We look forward to a healthy growth of this new Journal in concert with the continued evolution of the use of NMR for studies of biological macromolecules.

All of us who are actively involved in the start of the new Journal consider that it will be a privilege to all those working in biomolecular NMR to have this new, specialized forum available for improved communication. The initial response both with high-quality papers submitted for the first issues and with early subscriptions has been encouraging. Continuing success in establishing high standards of the work published will be a living proof of the maturity that our field has attained. We all will do our best to ensure fair reviewing and rapid publication of the manuscripts submitted, and look forward to a fruitful and enjoyable collaboration with our authors and readers.

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