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## Publisher's Note

At the end of 2003 Professor Irving Wainer will retire as Editor of this Journal after serving in this capacity for 11 years, starting in 1993. Irv's appointment established a direct editorial link with North America, which resulted in a gradual increase in submissions from this important area. Our continuing commitment to the American continent is demonstrated by the recruitment of two younger editors, Professor Thomas Karnes and Dr David Lloyd, who are already building on the firm foundations provided by Irv.

During his editorship, Irv has on many occasions taken the lead in redirecting the editorial policy of the Journal. Some recent examples of Editorial Notes that were published as a result are:

- Requirements for Initial Assay Validation and Publication in Journal of Chromatography B (J. Chromatogr. B, 707 (1998) 1–2)
- A New Direction for the Journal of Chromatography B: Biomedical Sciences and Applications (J. Chromatogr. B, 728 (2000) 1)
- A New Direction for the Journal of Chromatography B "Analytical Technologies in the Biomedical and Life Sciences" (J. Chromatogr. B, 766 (2001) 1–2)

Irv leaves the journal in excellent health, some 150 volumes later. On behalf of the Editors, Elsevier would like to extend its warm appreciation to Irv for his great contributions to the Journal both as author and editor, and we look forward to receiving many more articles by him in the coming years.