

## Journal of Lipid Research: The New Era in Lipid Science and Medicine

At the end of the twentieth century, we saw a revolution in “genomics” that is having profound effects on basic science and clinical medicine today. Currently we are in the middle of another revolution, namely “proteomics”—the extension of genomics to attempt to identify, characterize, and quantitate the primary products of the genes (identified in the human genome project) and understand their interactions. We predict that the next revolution in biomedical science will be in “metabolomics”—the extension of proteomics to identify, characterize, and quantitate all of the metabolic products of the protein synthetic machinery in our cells. A large portion of those metabolic products are lipids, and we predict a parallel revolution leading to an emerging new field of “lipidomics.”

The *Journal of Lipid Research (JLR)* is also undergoing a revolutionary change, which should position it for the new era in lipid science and medicine. On July 1, 2003, the *JLR* became a publication of the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB) alongside their other three journals, *Journal of Biological Chemistry (JBC)*, *Molecular and Cellular Proteomics (MCP)*, and *Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Education (BAMBED)*. A new Editor and Deputy Editor have assumed responsibility for the Journal, and the operations and policies have been reorganized to put *JLR* at the forefront of communicating the field of lipidomic science in the 21st century.

We are very excited about the opportunities and challenges that editing the *JLR* raises for the future of lipid research. The *JLR* has traditionally been recognized as the premier journal in which to present state-of-the-art manuscripts on traditional aspects of lipid metabolism. While we hope to continue and even expand the strong and distinguished traditions established by previous Editors, we also hope to dramatically advance the breadth, depth of coverage, and integration of the exciting advances occurring in the lipid, membrane, lipoprotein, signaling, and atherogenesis fields. We hope to broaden coverage to include the “genomics, proteomics, and metabolomics” of lipid and lipoprotein metabolism, including both basic and clinical aspects. We especially wish to encourage manuscripts dealing with state-of-the-art studies of those aspects that directly impact the arterial wall, leading to atherogenesis. Our understanding of the etiology of ath-

erosclerosis has exploded recently, and we wish to make the *JLR* a premier journal in which authors can present relevant work on the lipidomics of atherogenesis as well as all other basic aspects of lipids. Your active participation as an author, reviewer, and reader will be vital to helping us achieve these goals.

A major goal of the new *JLR* will be to provide fair, rapid, and expert review for all manuscripts. Consistent with the general policies for ASBMB, Associate Editors will now have full responsibility for their assigned manuscripts. Specifically, they will select at least two reviewers for each of their manuscripts (relying frequently on our Editorial Board), collect reviews, make the final decision on the manuscript, and correspond directly with the authors regarding the decision. Associate Editors may also serve as one of the reviewers. Thus the importance and influence of the Associate Editors will be greatly enhanced under this new Editorial policy. All reviews of manuscripts will be Web-based, and correspondence with the members of the Editorial Board and other outside expert reviewers will be handled electronically by the Associate Editors.

The Associate Editors will also serve as key advisers to the Editor in developing Editorial policy and directives. All submissions, reviews, decision letters, and correspondence will be handled electronically to minimize review time and time to publication. Once a manuscript is accepted, it will appear as a “Paper in Press” within two weeks of acceptance, consistent with current *JLR* policy. The popular Thematic Review series will continue with exciting topics in lipid biology and medicine. In addition, the entire forty-four-plus years of *JLR* published papers is now available on the Web. We hope you, as a *JLR* author, reviewer, and reader will participate fully with us to help enlarge the scope and influence of the *JLR*. Our purpose is to increase the opportunity for authors to communicate their important new observations in the field of lipidomics and thereby to facilitate study of this exciting and expanding discipline.

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