

Editorial

Welcome to *Journal of Materials Science : Materials in Medicine* for 2002.

We concluded 2001 with a bumper triple issue containing selected papers from the 16th European Conference on Biomaterials held in London in September, and will continue in a similar mode this year, with special issues devoted to the recent NATO Advanced Study Institute on polymeric biomaterials, as well as the forthcoming 17th European Conference on Biomaterials in Barcelona. With the special issues, together with an expanded coverage of submitted papers, we plan to keep our readers and authors at the forefront of international biomaterials and tissue engineering research. Such increased activity has necessitated an increase in the editorial team for the *Journal*, and I am very pleased to announce that my longstanding research colleague, Dr Serena Best, has been appointed as Associate Editor. In this rôle, Serena will share the editorial responsibility with me and her proximity in the same department in Cambridge, together with my secretary, Christine Carey, will ensure an effective team effort to complement the Kluwer publishing operation in Boston.

The special relationship with the European Society for Biomaterials will be further enhanced through the appointment to the Editorial Board of Professor Peter Revell (President), Professor Paulo Tranquilli-Leali (Past President), Professor Peter Thomsen (former Secretary), Dr Joost de Bruijn (Secretary), Professor Luigi Ambrosio (Treasurer) and Professor Josep Planell (Auditor), who have all supported the journal as authors and as referees for many years. With such underpinning by subject leaders, I am confident that the Journal will continue to provide the refereeing quality demanded by our association with the mainstream *Journal of Materials Science*.

It is a pleasure to record that the *Materials in Medicine* Best Paper Award for 2000 was awarded to: M Källtorp, A Carlén, P Thomsen, J Olsson, and P Tengvall, for their distinctive paper on “Analysis of Rat Plasma Proteins Desorbed from Gold and Methyl- and Hydroxyl-Terminated Alkane Thiols on Gold Surfaces”. This award was presented at the European Conference on Biomaterials in London, and the 2001 award will similarly be announced at the European Conference in Barcelona. Authors should note that all papers published in the *Journal* are eligible for this award, consisting of a certificate and \$500 from the Publisher.

In conclusion, may I wish all our readers a productive and peaceful New Year.

William Bonfield
January 2002