

### **Preface: Tectonics at the 26th IGC, Paris**

This issue of the *Journal of Structural Geology* contains fourteen articles which were originally presented as papers to the Tectonics Section of the International Geological Congress held in Paris during July 1980. The fourteen articles represent a very small sample of the approximately 200 talks given to the Tectonics Section; our selection is taken from contributions reported to the thematic meetings, some symposia papers being reserved for other periodicals. Judging from the relatively large audiences and lively discussions at the thematic meetings it was clear that the appeal of structural geology and tectonics extends beyond that of its practitioners to include many earth scientists who are not specialists in those fields.

The papers in this issue are not organised into the same thematic groupings as were used at the IGC in Paris. The first five articles are all concerned with the analysis of neotectonic structures, the following seven papers are linked by the theme of deformational processes and tectonics within the Alpine-Himalayan zone, and the two final papers discuss aspects of Hercynian or Caledonian tectonics in Europe.

I am most grateful to J. F. Dewey, M. Mattauer and A. Nicolas who were the conveners of the Tectonics Section of the 1980 IGC for allowing this Journal to publish some of the excellent talks which their planning of the programme had stimulated; their assistance as special editors was much appreciated.

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