

## Editorial

I am pleased to announce that *Pharmaceutical Research* has become the official journal of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS), effective with this issue. *Pharmaceutical Research* is among a group of first-rate periodicals in the biomedical-pharmaceutical sciences, on par with other outstanding journals in other specialty fields. I believe *Pharmaceutical Research* can assist the AAPS to initiate and foster the expansion of its interests into new fields, such as biotechnology, the development of macromolecular drugs, and clinical sciences. More traditional areas of focal interest include pharmaceutical technology, pharmaceuticals and targeted drug delivery, pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics, computer-aided drug design, novel methods in drug analysis, and the medicinal chemistry, pharmacology, and chemical toxicology of a growing number of promising drug classes.

As this is the first issue of *Pharmaceutical Research* as the official journal of the AAPS, it is appropriate to restate the journal's goals and general philosophy. *Pharmaceutical Research* is an international forum for the publication of outstanding basic and applied papers in the pharmaceutical-biomedical sciences featuring high-quality peer-reviewed original research articles, reports, reviews, commentaries, and letters. Clearly, *Pharmaceutical Research* will now also serve as a communication forum for the AAPS by publishing letters, commentaries, AAPS official news, and the program and abstracts of the annual AAPS meeting. However, as our major goal is the *achievement of the highest possible level of scientific quality*, the journal must continue to reach out to pharmaceutical scientists worldwide and to scientists in related disciplines. For instance, the journal's invited review articles by outstanding authors in various disciplines will serve the readership by discussing interesting topics from diverse perspectives. Indeed, an open link to research fronts in the chemical, physical, biological, and biomedical sciences will prove essential to the future vigor of the AAPS.

We are committed to enhance the journal's scientific quality to the very highest level obtainable, while maintaining its broad scope and international character. *I strongly urge the members of the AAPS to participate actively in further establishing Pharmaceutical Research as a premier scientific publication*—to submit their best research work to the journal for peer review, to suggest review topics and authors in novel lead areas, to serve as scrupulous referees, and to share information by writing letters on relevant topics.

Because of the present flow of excellent papers, I am pleased to announce the journal will expand in 1987. Although it remains bimonthly in 1987, the number of pages published will increase by 100%, that is, will be *doubled!* And, we expect the journal to grow even further in future years with your help—in due course becoming a monthly.

A word of appreciation is in order now to two colleagues and co-editors, Professors Müller and Nelson, for their efforts on behalf of the journal in its formative years. Both are retiring as Associate Editors, but will continue as members of the Editorial Advisory Board. Because of the ever-increasing manuscript flow, the composition of that Board will be increased, with additional editors of international renown. The dual independent refereeing system remains a key element in maintaining and enhancing the journal's scientific standing; the Editorial Advisory Board will play an increasingly significant role here.

Excitement is in the air. The journal is growing and will continue to do so with the input of all members of our community. We are dedicated to be a publication of the highest quality, with a broad international perspective.

The pharmaceutical sciences themselves are at an exciting stage now, with new horizons emerging. The creation of the AAPS has furthered the excitement, and we welcome the AAPS membership as subscribers, readers, authors, referees, colleagues, and friends.

Wolfgang Sadée  
Editor