

## Editorial

It is again time to review the progress of *Pharmaceutical Research* over the past year and discuss new challenges for 1988. The growth of the journal, following its affiliation with the AAPS, has been phenomenal. Manuscript submissions have nearly doubled each year from 85 manuscripts in 1985, and 154 in 1986, to approximately 290 manuscripts in 1987! In June 1986, the leadership of the AAPS, the publisher, and the editors decided on a monthly publication schedule with 64 pages per issue, beginning in 1988. At that time I projected the total number of manuscript submissions for 1987 at 240, considerably below the actual number of 290. I very much appreciate the confidence that the authors have placed in *Pharmaceutical Research*.

Detailed analysis of the submitted manuscripts reveals a number of interesting trends. First, I have divided the manuscripts along the topics related to the sections of the AAPS (excluding ESAS), giving each rather liberal definitions of scientific areas. The following distribution was calculated (% of total manuscripts submitted): Pharmaceutical Technology 16%; Pharmaceutics and Drug Delivery 28%; Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacodynamics, and Drug Metabolism 27%; Analysis and Pharmaceutical Quality 15%; Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry 10%; Others 4%. After subtracting reviews, letters, and commentaries, the overall rejection rate was 40%, equally distributed among PT, PDD, and PPDM, although it now appears that APQ and MNPC fared a little better. Over the latter part of 1986, submissions in the areas of analytical and medicinal chemistry have caught up with the other areas, while PDD remains clearly in the lead. The increased strength in the medicinal chemistry areas is very welcome to provide a balanced spectrum of disciplines.

For the coming year I project further increases in the manuscript flow, which can be accommodated with in-

creased page volumes in subsequent years as needed. During times of such rapidly changing scope, a firm policy on criteria for acceptance of papers will be difficult to define. The goal of the journal however remains to provide a interdisciplinary publication forum of international reputation, that is recognized for its high quality in all areas of the pharmaceutical-biomedical sciences. Acceptance criteria are largely set by the referees (who were listed in the last issue of 87), with at least average priority score required for Reports and Technical Notes, and above-average scores for full-length Research Articles. Further, the Editors will continue to invite well-known scientists in related fields (e.g., biotechnology, computerized drug design, protein chemistry, clinical sciences, and toxicology) to broaden the scope of the journal and the focal areas of interest to the AAPS.

Among a few minor changes of the editorial process, I would like to draw the reader's attention to the announcement of the AAPS Professional Affairs Committee on its new Full Disclosure Policy (see AAPS section at the end of this issue). The following statement has been added to the Instructions to Contributors: "Authors of manuscripts submitted to *Pharmaceutical Research* are requested to state the source of all funding which enabled the research described to be undertaken." While articles will not be excluded from publication without this information, disclosure of the funding source appears to be highly desirable to permit a candid discussion of all aspects relevant to the study.

The editors look forward to exciting new developments of *Pharmaceutical Research* which is beginning to take an eminent position in the scientific literature.

Wolfgang Sadée  
Editor