

# Editorial

We are very pleased to announce that as a consequence of the increased number of newly submitted papers, *Polymer* is able to increase its annual frequency from 24 to 26 issues as of 1994. This increase has been possible in spite of a tightened acceptance policy by the Editors. *Polymer* is determined to maintain its primary position by being a carefully peer-reviewed and professionally produced scientific journal of consistently high standards covering the full breadth of polymer science and technology.

We are grateful to the Editors of our journal and in particular to their referees, who, generally unrewarded, perform one of the essential tasks of scientific exchange in judging and commenting on newly submitted papers with regard to their novelty, scientific merit and clarity. The high standards maintained by *Polymer*, and the importance of the papers published in the journal, are solely determined by our expert editorial board and diligent referees on the one hand, and meticulous authors on the other. A sincere word of thanks is due to all involved for ensuring *Polymer's* place as a top primary research journal in its field.

The Communications section of *Polymer* appears to have started a second life since its incorporation into the main volume of the journal. Publication times for this rapid publication section have been much reduced recently and particular thanks are due to Dr Randal Richards, who now handles a steadily growing number of communications. Thanks are also due to Professors Eby and Imanishi for their work on communications from North America and Japan, respectively.

At the beginning of 1993, Professor H.C. Benoît indicated his wish to step down as editor to make room for a younger generation. We thank Professor Benoît for contributing his great expertise to *Polymer* for so many years. Also in 1993, sadly, one of our esteemed editors in the USA, Dr A. Peterlin, died; his presence will be sincerely missed.

Finally, while running the risk of being incomplete, we would like to congratulate a number of our editors on being honoured with prestigious awards over the past year: Professor Ron Eby for receiving the 1993 SPE Research Award, Professor Donald Paul for receiving the SPE International Award, and Professor Ian Ward for receiving the Charles Vernon Boys Medal and Prize of the Institute of Physics.

This issue is the first of Volume 35 and presents a particularly good selection of papers with which we are proud to start the 35th year of publication of *Polymer*. May we take this opportunity to wish everybody a happy and prosperous 1994.

Henri van Dorssen  
Senior Group Editor