Editorial

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The vascular system and its ability to deliver blood-borne nutrients in appropriate quantities to every cell in the body has been a source of wonder to all those who have investigated it. From Galen through Harvey to the present-day myriad of vascular scientists, knowledge of the intricacies of every element of this system has increased explosively. It is for this reason that we, as newly appointed editors of this journal, believe that there is a requirement for a forum where all aspects of vascular science can be presented and discussed. For the past 28 years, over half that time under the careful stewardship of Dr. John Bevan, the journal *Blood Vessels* has nurtured this concept, and the journal has become established. By changing the name to *Journal of Vascular Research*, we seek to emphasize the wide-ranging nature of vascular science, from growth factor to vascular proliferation, from the microcirculation to the aorta, from the endothelium to

the neuron, from cell biology to circulatory control, from smooth muscle crossbridges to hemodynamics, in health and disease.

Our editorial aim is for the *Journal of Vascular Research* to publish articles of originality and scientific excellence. To achieve this we have assembled an editorial board consisting both of distinguished vascular scientists of long standing as well as a number of younger colleagues who have already made substantial contributions to the field. Membership of the board will be limited to 3 years with an option for a further 3 years.

In addition to Regular Articles, occasional Reviews will be solicited, and there will be the opportunity to publish Rapid Communications concerned with exciting new data. A Correspondence section and a Commentary section will allow debate of controversial issues. You will notice too that the format of the journal has been changed, the larger page size allowing a clearer presentation.

A major concern of the editors is to reduce the time interval involved in editorial procedures, consistent with stringent review. By use of the fax and courier services we will seek to keep the time from receipt of manuscript to first decision to 5-6 weeks, and the publishers Karger will keep the time from acceptance to publication to 4-5 months, and less for Rapid Communications.

Our aims are ambitious, but the extremely positive response we have already had from colleagues in all parts of the world, and in all fields of vascular science, encourages us to believe that the journal can indeed be a purveyor of excellence in vascular science. The future of the journal will be determined by the amalgam of the efforts of authors, reviewers and readers. The editors and the editorial board are enthused to play their role, and we hope that the community of vascular scientists feel encouraged to join with us in this effort to strengthen the manner in which the results of vascular research are presented.