Editor's Note

From its inception in 1970 by M. Marois (Paris, France), this journal – then known as ‘Hormones’ – has been an authoritative source of endocrinological research, whether clinical or experimental. By 1976, when J. Girard (Basel, Switzerland) took over the editorship, it was an established journal publishing up-to-date knowledge on ‘Hormone Research’ (its new name) with contributions from basic and clinical investigators. At the time my tenure began in 1995, the journal began to reflect further dramatic changes in the field of endocrinology, but also the new developments in communication technologies. For instance, the field of molecular genetics has not only revolutionized the biomedical sciences but has also become an intrinsic and routine part of endocrinological practice, and, at the same time, all of us are involved in the attempt to keep up with the fast pace of knowledge through the medium of Internet. The significance of modern scientific journals still depends on the peer-reviewing process, which has now been greatly enhanced by the possibilities of modern communication. In recent years, ‘Hormone Research’ has begun to offer a number of articles by endocrinologists working in varied fields and on continents beyond its European roots. Although the journal continues to be a platform for basic and clinical scientists, it has developed its focus on paediatric endocrinology. This led to the choice of ‘Hormone Research’ as the official journal of the European Society for Paediatric Endocrinology (ESPE). The scope of the journal has

widened considerably over the years, and ‘Hormone Research’ has meanwhile also become a forum for discussion and exchange of knowledge in matters relating to the development of endocrinology as a special branch of medicine, in all its scientific, practical, political and educational dimensions.

Publishing a scientific journal is a complex undertaking, involving considerable team work. During my tenure as Editor-in-Chief I have been greatly indebted to many people: my foremost thanks are extended to the authors who have honoured ‘Hormone Research’ by submitting the fruits of their work; as well as the referees whose expertise and balanced judgement contributed towards maintaining the journal’s quality. I am also sincerely grateful to the editorial team at Karger (Basel), comprising Susan Aeschbach-Jagger, Manuela Meyer, Hermann Frei and Thomas Nold, and to Priscilla Herrmann (Tübingen), all of whom have been untiring in their efforts to ensure the smooth coordination of manuscripts, authors, referees and deadlines.

I am very optimistic that ‘Hormone Research’ will thrive and that its content and structure will continue to represent the interests of the readers. Last, but not least, I wish my successor, Paul Czernichow, and the new Editorial Board a fortunate hand in steering the course of the journal through the tides of scientific editing.

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