Editorial Note

Biology of the Neonate is now entering its 45th year. There have been only two Editors-in-Chief, Professors Alexandre Minkowski and Jean Pierre Relier, over the past 44 years. Together they have helped to establish the journal as one of the foremost sources of information on fetal and neonatal development worldwide. *Biology of the Neonate* now has an impact factor of almost 1.3 which places it above all but one European paediatric journals.

From the beginning of 2004 there will be two new Editors-in-Chief and we intend to make some changes with a view to continuing the journal's progress. Firstly, we will have a streamlined Editorial Board of about 30 members which will reflect all the research areas of neonatology, fetal medicine and developmental biology and at the same time provide a wider geographic coverage than before. Secondly, the scope of the journal will be increased to allow more reports of clinical research in addition to basic science. Clinical research could take the form of randomised trials, observational studies or epidemiology.

The new Editors would also like to encourage more papers from the fields of obstetrics and fetal medicine. State-of-the-art review articles will also be welcomed and readers' suggestions for topics and contributors will be appreciated. Thirdly, papers will be published on-line soon after final acceptance by the Editors, this could be 3–4 months before the print version appears.

Our aims are to attract high quality research papers, increase the journal's circulation and continue to improve its impact worldwide.

We look forward to working with our authors and readers to fulfill these aims.

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