Publisher's Note

Hormone Research was first published in 1970, under the title 'Hormones', as successor to the 'European Review of Endocrinology', founded in 1964. 'Hormones' was the English version of the journal, whereas the French version was published simultaneously in the 'Revue Européenne d'Endocrinologie', its aim being to report essential results of experimental and clinical research and follow developments in the field of endocrinology.

Prof. M. Marois held the post of Editor from 1970 to 1976. In 1975 Prof. J. Girard, Basel, assumed the post of Editor jointly with Prof. Marois. In the same year, the journal merged with 'Steroids and Lipids Research' – another Karger journal under the chief editorship of Prof. Marois – and was renamed *Hormone Research*. The editorial in 1975 stated that 'the journal will publish experimental and methodological work related to endocrinology as well as clinical investigations and case reports to become an interdisciplinary forum for all aspects of endocrinology.'

Prof. Girard led the journal for nearly 20 years – after Prof. Marois' retirement in 1976 – until 1995 and still serves as a member of the Editorial Board. In 1989, due to Prof. Girard's emphasis on paediatric endocrinology, it became the official organ of the European Society for Paediatric Endocrinology (ESPE), a status it enjoys to this day.

In 1996, Prof. M. Ranke, Tübingen, took over the leadership of *Hormone Research*, and in the 7 years of his tenure the international repute of the journal continued to grow. He states in his first Editorial in 1996 that he 'would also like *Hormone Research* to develop into a journal which – in allusion to the endocrinological communication system – serves as a mediator for information, discussion and interaction, from which new impulses are certain to arise'. We of the publishing house believe that he has succeeded and would like to take this opportunity to extend our warmest thanks for his untiring dedication to the journal and the good rapport we have enjoyed with him throughout his editorship.

Prof. Ranke has now decided to step down from his post. We wish him the very best for his future, and hope that he will continue to follow the development of the journal with interest.

We welcome as his successor Prof. P. Czernichow. We are certain that his ideas and impulses will ensure the journal's continued growth in reputation and quality, and look forward to working with him.

Thomas Karger
Steven Karger