Editorial

The good news of the summer is that *Neuroendocrinology's* impact factor is on the increase at 2.84 (as compared with 2.14 and 2.51 in 2001 and 2002, respectively). In parallel, several improvements have been introduced in the operation of the Journal during the 1st semester of 2004. Many of them implement recommendations presented at the 2003 meeting of the Editorial Board:

Articles are now displayed on the web as soon as they are accepted, immediately after proofreading. They are subsequently rearranged by topic for paper publication. This saves about 6 weeks in the submission/publication time lag.

After an initial pilot experiment in 2002, a unified web-based evaluation procedure has been set up by the publisher and implemented as of July 1, 2004. It permits online submission (<http://oper.karger.com/nen/>) and peer review of manuscripts, i.e. from reception and acknowledgment of submissions to interactions with reviewers, correspondence with authors, and final transmission to the publisher. Consequently, new recommendations to authors have been drafted, recommending submission of manuscripts in electronic format. This procedure is also expected to speed up the publication time.

In addition, the very favourable rate of EUR 33.00 (or USD 35.00) per year for the web version of the Journal offered by the publisher is now available to individual members of the International Neuroendocrine Federation and of national or regional Neuroendocrine Societies (www.karger.com/INF_members).

At its 2004 meeting in New Orleans, the Editorial Board proposed to more proactively solicit submissions in two major areas: the description of neuroendocrine alterations observed in transgenic models, even before full mechanistic understanding of the phenotype has been obtained, and contributions relevant to neuroendocrine regulation based on microarrays, genomics, proteomics, or bioinformatics. Manuscripts submitted in these areas will be evaluated rapidly and published under a special heading.

Finally, Board Members proposed to sponsor younger scientists from established laboratories and to invite them to submit either minireviews or still unpublished material based on their PhD theses.

With best wishes from the Editorial Office

Claude Kordon, Paris

Note:

The Karger Publishing Company, *Neuroendocrinology* and the newly created European Neuroendocrine Tumor Society (ENETS) have come to an agreement to attract more submissions in the areas of clinical and peripheral neuroendocrinology. According to the agreement, ENETS will solicit its members to contribute articles, which will of course be reviewed according to the usual standards of quality of the journal. ENETS will also assist the Editorial Office and the Editorial Board by nominating an Assistant Editor and a few Board members. In counterpart, *Neuroendocrinology* will publish the ENETS Newsletter, the first issue of which can be found hereafter.