Editorial

The Publisher and I are very pleased to announce that Dr. Jacqueline Smith has agreed to become an Associate Editor for the section *Animal Cytogenetics and Genomics* of this journal and will share this important section with Dr. Thomas Haaf and Dr. Kent M. Reed. As this section has continued to grow, the editorial workload has become considerable. Consequently the addition of a third Associate Editor has become essential.

After graduating with a PhD in Genetics from St. Andrews University, Dr. Smith obtained a position as a post-doctoral fellow in Professor Dave Burt's laboratory at the Roslin Institute. This internationally recognized group focuses on various aspects of chicken genetics and genomics. Initially, the projects Dr. Smith was involved in centered around cytogenetics and BAC mapping. As part of a European collaboration she developed some of the early physical maps of the chicken. As well as studying the genes on chicken chromosomes, much of her work became more comparative in nature and she took a detailed look at human chromosome 19 and compared it with the homologous chicken chromosomes. This comparative mapping led to a further interest in the evolution of genomes, and a study of the chicken zona pellucida gene family served as an example of how gene functions are lost and/or duplicated across species as evolution progresses. More recent projects that she has been working on have been based on gene expression studies and have involved substantial microarray work, primarily looking at the immune response of birds infected with the avian influenza virus. The recent sequencing of the chicken genome and the resources that are now available to avian researchers has made the chicken a very exciting species to study. Dr. Smith has now worked at Roslin for nearly eleven years and has been a highly effective Editor for *Cytogenetic and Genome Research* for the past four.

The Editorial Board of this Journal is very pleased that Dr. Smith has agreed to assume the task of Associate Editor and we all look forward with great pleasure to be working with her.

Michael Schmid