
E d i t o r i a l

Starting with issue 3 of Volume 27, I undertook the responsibility of the coordinating editor of *General Physiology and Biophysics*. This journal, founded in 1982, achieved a stable position within the middle-European scientific community. Its good start was granted by the personality of the founder, Professor Jozef Zachar, who was a respected scientist on both sides of the former iron curtain.

In 1996 Dr. Branislav Uhrík, my predecessor, took over editorial responsibilities. These were turbulent times of societal changes. The journal was losing both subscribers and contributors. Thanks to the untiring effort of Dr. Uhrík, the journal got back to its feet. It is his merit that the editorial work was partly computerized and that the journal was slowly finding its way into the Internet. The number of contributors started to increase again, and we are pleased to see contributions from new parts of the world including the Middle East and China. The Impact factor started to rise as well, and in 2007 it reached 1.286. During nearly 12 years of Dr. Uhrík's leadership, the journal received 627 manuscripts. 170 of them were rejected, 432 of them got published and 25 are still awaiting editorial decision. Additionally, one Focus Issue and 5 Supplements were published. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Uhrík for all work he has done for the benefit of the journal and its readers.

To accept the position of the coordinating editor of *General Physiology and Biophysics* is an important challenge. We need to make this publication an even more effective agent for spreading good quality science. We are starting with a renewed editorial board, hoping for increased flexibility and promptness. In order to reach wide scientific public, we will depend still more on the Internet. To help us speed up the reviewing process we will rely on the editors and their voluntary reviewers, as well as on the discipline of authors in following the newly and more precisely defined instructions. Last but not least, we have to guard the ethics of the scientific conduct. Certainly, the upcoming period will not be easy. I hope that in cooperation with our editors and with the editorial board we will enhance the impact of *General Physiology and Biophysics* further.

Eubica Lacinová
Coordinating Editor