

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Since I will resign from Council during the next annual scientific meeting, this will be my last Newsletter communication. I feel that my presidency is characterized by two extremes. During the last few years, the quality and scientific impact of the ESCI-meetings has reached a well recognized level. The journal has never done so well and its quality is still growing. But on the other hand, after many prosperous years the state of the Society is becoming unstable. The membership is going down and has never been as low as it will be this year. This and the increasing cost of the journal, due to a change of bi-monthly to monthly publication, has led to a reduction of the Society's capital. Of course, the Council has foreseen a decrease of the profit from the journal and expects that the increasing quality of the journal will result within some years in an increase of journal subscriptions and thus in more income from the journal. This increase must, however, not be outbalanced by a further downhill course of the membership, but this is what the Council fears. It is more and more clear that specialty societies are becoming more attractive for in particular young investigators to present their work. In addition, many of these investigators cannot afford it anymore to attend several meetings within one year and/or to be associated with several societies. The Council is nevertheless still convinced that a general society as ESCI has a right to exist, primarily because of its rather unique aim to initiate and stimulate interdisciplinary exchange of ideas and to promote the comprehension of the significance of basic principles and developments for clinical medicine. To establish this further, the Council feels that the Society should become less dependent of the membership fee and the running of the Society should become more economical than it already is. The Council is looking for ways to reach this, for instance by obtaining financial support from the European Committee. In addition, changes will be proposed to make the Society more attractive for both basic and clinical scientists and to make its structure more in line with its philosophy. For instance, it is the intention to focus in future annual scientific meetings on thematic rather than specialty sessions. The abstract form will be changed in this way. Furthermore, workshops of general interest will become more and more an integral part of the Society. To this end, discussions are started with the organizers of the Phagocyte Workshop to establish a structural link with the Society by appointing an ex officio member from the phagocyte group in Council. The Council will try to attract more groups like the phagocyte group in order to strengthen its position. As the Society is obviously not able to compete with specialist societies, it rather should try to gather interdisciplinary groups who lack an organizational structure as our Society. The Council will appreciate it very much to receive from the members other ideas that may contribute to the vitality of the Society.

As you will learn from this Newsletter, the Mack-Forster Award for Clinical Investigation will be awarded to Dr Thomas Lüscher from Switzerland this year. Unfortunately, this will be the last Mack-Forster Award in the history of the Society. The company Heinrich Mack has decided to stop their support for the prize. Of course, the Council is very thankful to the Heinrich Mack Company for its support for so many years, but is on the other hand very sad that an institute as the Mack-

Forster Award, which has been one of the identities of the Society, has come to an end. The Council is looking very actively after an alternative to continue with a yearly award for clinical investigation and hopes to be successful before the end of this year.

Finally, I really hope to meet you in Heidelberg. The programme of this annual scientific meeting sounds excellent and will contribute once more to the scientific echo of the Society. Council is, however, already thinking further. The meeting in 1994 will be held in Toledo, Spain and decisions have been made for the meetings in 1995 (Cambridge, England) and 1996 (Dijon, France) too. These meetings will most likely be held with John Martin as president. I am delighted that John Martin, who was an excellent and stimulating Councillor in the previous years, is prepared to succeed me in such an unstable situation. The reputation of John guarantees an atmosphere in which the Society must prosper. I wish John and the Council all the best in their aim to consolidate the fundamentals of the Society. Hopefully with your support!

*Arie C. Nieuwenhuijzen Kruseman*

## MACK-FORSTER AWARD 1993

The winner of the Mack-Forster Award for this year is Thomas F. Lüscher. Dr Lüscher is 40 years old and received his medical degree at the University of Zürich. His comprehensive training both in experimental (Mayo Clinic and Mayo Foundation, Rochester, USA) and clinical medicine (University Hospital Zürich, Switzerland) allowed him to pursue an extraordinarily successful career to combine basic pharmacology with clinical research.



*Thomas Lüscher*

Dr Lüscher's research focus on the physiological role of endothelium in the regulation of vascular tone. Dr Lüscher was among the first to demonstrate the occurrence of endothelium-dependent relaxation of human blood vessels. He found that endothelium-derived nitric oxide (NO) is an important regulator of the tone of human arteries and veins, although the latter vessels synthesize less NO than arteries. This may explain the higher sensitivity of veins than arteries to exogenous nitrovasodilators. Dr Lüscher has also studied the role of endothelium-derived mediators such as NO and endothelin in hyperlipidaemia, hypertension and for coronary bypass graft function. He was able to demonstrate that oxidized low-density lipoproteins (LDL) cause imbalance between vasodilator and vasoconstrictor functions of endothelium by inhibiting responses mediated by NO and stimulating endothelin pre-messenger RNA. The studies on hypertension both in experimental models and in human subjects led him to conclude that endothelium-dependent relaxation is impaired in hypertension, a pathology that is reversible by appropriate

antihypertensive therapy. Of important clinical significance are the findings that the higher patency rate of mammary artery as compared to saphenous vein coronary bypass grafts may be due to an enhanced release of NO from the arterial tissue and a decrease in pulsatile stretch-induced proliferation of arterial smooth muscle vascular cells. He will present these data the coming Annual Scientific Meeting of the Society in Heidelberg.

Dr Lüscher is a prolific author of more than two hundred original and review articles and he is editor of several outstanding handbooks on vascular endothelium. This superb work has been made possible by Dr Lüscher's ability to attract, lead and coach his younger associates to fruition. The Mack-Forster Award will be presented to Dr Lüscher at the Annual Scientific Meeting in Heidelberg.

*Marek Radomski*

## SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME 27th ANNUAL MEETING

14-17 April 1993, Heidelberg, Germany

The 27th Annual Scientific Meeting of ESCI will comprise 5 plenary lectures, 16 workshops, about 200 subspecialty poster presentations; altogether more than 400 presentations.

All posters will be on display during the whole meeting. Chaired poster discussions are scheduled on Friday afternoon, April 16th. A selection of posters of high interest will be selected for oral presentations by chairmen of the poster discussions. Authors of these poster will be informed about that possibility well in advance. To increase the interest in and impact of the presented posters, no other activities are scheduled during this Friday-afternoon. The Bristol-Myers Squibb poster awards will be presented to the best 4 posters (including the workshop posters) judged on both scientific and artistic merits, at the congress dinner.

### Scientific Programme Summary

#### ■ Thursday 15th April 1993

- 08.30 - 08.45 **OPENING CEREMONY**  
L. Theilmann (Heidelberg, Germany)  
A.C. Nieuwenhuijzen Kruseman (Maastricht, The Netherlands).
- 08.45 - 09.30 **BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB UPDATE LECTURE**  
"Molecular genetics of polygenic disease: the example of hypertension"  
P. Corvol (Paris, France)
- 09.45 - 12.30 **WORKSHOPS (10.45 - 11.15 coffee break):**
- no. 2 Cell biology of phagocytes
  - 3 Megakaryocytes and platelets in vascular disease
  - 4 New aspects on volume control
  - 7  $\alpha$ -glucosidase inhibitors in diabetes
  - 8 Triglycerides and atherosclerosis
  - 12 Chronobiological aspects of internal medicine

- 13 Asthma. Should we be treating symptoms or the underlying disease?
- 14 Clinical pharmacology: probing mechanism of vascular control in people
- 15 Trophic factors in nerve disease and repair
- 16 Hepatic removal of protein bound substances from the blood

12.30 - 14.00 **Lunch and poster viewing subspecialty sessions**

14.00 - 14.45 **BOERHAAVE LECTURE**  
"Towards a molecular understanding of Alzheimer's disease"  
K. Beyreuther (Heidelberg, Germany)

15.00 - 17.30 **WORKSHOPS (16.00 - 16.30 tea break):**

- no. 2 Cell biology of phagocytes
- 3 Megakaryocytes and platelets in vascular disease
- 4 New aspects on volume control
- 7  $\alpha$ -glucosidase inhibitors in diabetes
- 8 Triglycerides and atherosclerosis
- 12 Chronobiological aspect of internal medicine
- 13 Asthma. Should we be treating the symptoms or the underlying diseases?
- 14 Clinical pharmacology: probing mechanisms of vascular control in people
- 15 Trophic factors in nerve disease and repair
- 16 Hepatic removal of protein bound substances from the blood

#### ■ Friday 16th April 1993

08.30 - 11.30 **WORKSHOPS (10.00 - 10.30 coffee break):**

- no. 2 Cell biology of phagocytes
- 7  $\alpha$ -glucosidase inhibitors in diabetes
- 8 Triglycerides and atherosclerosis
- 10 Fish oil and vascular disease II
- 16 Hepatic removal of protein bound substances from the blood

11.45 - 12.30 **MERCK, SHARP & DOHME UPDATE LECTURE**  
"Molecular and cellular approaches to atherogenesis"  
R. Ross (Seattle, Washington, USA)

12.30 - 14.00 **Lunch and poster viewing subspecialty sessions**

13.15 - 13.45 **Annual Business Meeting (ESCI members only)**

14.00 - 17.00 **SUBSPECIALTY POSTER SESSIONS (15.15 - 15.45 tea break):**

Cardiovascular Medicine  
Diabetes/Metabolism  
Endocrinology  
Gastroenterology/Liver  
Nephrology/Hypertension  
Lipids (14.00 - 15.15)  
Neurobiology (15.45 - 17.00)  
Rheumatology (15.45 - 17.00)

17.00 - 17.45 **MACK-FORSTER AWARD LECTURE 1993**  
"The endothelium as a target and mediator of cardiovascular disease"  
T.F. Lüscher (Basel, Switzerland)

## ■ Saturday 17th April 1993

09.00 - 11.30 WORKSHOPS (10.00 - 10.30 coffee break):

- no. 1 Lymphokines and growth factors in solid tumour therapy. From a theoretical background to clinical application
- 2 Cell biology of phagocytes
- 5 Renin-angiotensin-system and diabetic angiopathy
- 6 Hypoglycaemia unawareness
- 9 Coagulation and vessel wall
- 10 Fish oil and vascular disease II
- 11 Cardiovascular effects of histamine and H<sub>2</sub>-receptor antagonists

11.45 - 12.30 **RENOLD MEMORIAL LECTURE**  
"The genetics of predisposition of cancer in man."  
B.A.J. Ponder (Cambridge, UK)

12.30 - 14.00 Lunch

14.00 - 17.00 WORKSHOPS (15.15 - 15.45 tea break):

- no. 1 Lymphokines and growth factors in solid tumour therapy. From a theoretical background to clinical application
- 2 Cell biology of phagocytes
- 5 Renin-angiotensin-system and diabetic angiopathy
- 6 Hypoglycaemia unawareness
- 9 Coagulation and vessel wall
- 10 Fish oil and vascular disease II

Participants of the meeting will receive the final programme at the meeting. This programme will not be mailed to participants in advance.

### Local organizing committee

R. Raedsch & L. Theilmann  
Medizinische Universitätsklinik,  
Bergheimer Strasse 58'  
D-6900 Heidelberg, Germany.  
Phone: 49-6221-568-611; Fax: 49-6221-563-122

### Organizing secretariat

Congress and Incoming Service,  
Alte Bergheimer Strasse 6,  
D-6900 Heidelberg, Germany.  
Phone: 49-6221-166-097; Fax: 49-6221-121-12

On Wednesday evening April 14th at 5.30 pm a welcome reception will be held at the convention site, the Neue Universität, Universitätsplatz, Heidelberg, which is located in a pedestrian area in the heart of the old part of the city.

## WORKSHOPS 28TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

20-23 April, Toledo, Spain

The following workshops are proposed for the 28th ASM in Toledo:

- 1. Cytokines and autoimmune disease.**  
Organizers: J.M. Dayer & G Spinas (Geneve/Basel, Switzerland)
- 2. Nitric oxide.**  
Organizer: M. Radomski (London, United Kingdom)
- 3. Arterial and arteriolar wall in diabetes mellitus.**  
Organizer: N.C. Schaper (Maastricht, The Netherlands)
- 4. Metabolic effects of IGF.**  
Organizer: U. Keller (Basel, Switzerland)
- 5. Cell biology of phagocytes.**  
Organizer: NN
- 6. Endothelin and cardiovascular risk factors.**  
Organizer: Th Lüscher (Basel, Switzerland)
- 7. Oncogenes, cell growth and differentiation.**  
Organizers: M. Barbacid & M.A. Lacol (Madrid, Spain)
- 8. Lipoproteins and atherosclerosis.**  
Organizer: M. de Oya Otero (Madrid, Spain)
- 9. Advances in hepatology.**  
Organizers: J. Rodes & P. Lara (Madrid, Spain)
- 10. Growth hormone in the adult: Physiological and therapeutical aspects.**  
Organizers: A. Gómez-Pan & J.J. Díez (Madrid, Spain)
- 11. Renal immunopathology**  
Organizer: J. Egido (Madrid, Spain)
- 12. Megakaryocyte biology**  
Organizers: J.D. Erusalimski & W. Vainchenker (London, United Kingdom & Créteil, France)

### Local organizers:

Dr. Antonio Gómez-Pan & Dr. Juan José Díez,  
Servicio de Endocrinología y Nutrición,  
Hospital La Paz, po Castellana, 261,  
28046 Madrid, Spain.  
Phone: 34-1-358-2600; Fax: 34-1-734-2293

### Secretariat:

Serono Colloquia, Att. Ms Isabel Candela,  
PO Box 113, 28080 Coslada, Madrid, Spain.  
Phone: 34-1-308-2981; Fax: 34-1-308-6355

### Travel, accommodation and social events:

VIAJES GUADATUR,  
Avda. Menendez y Pelayo, 25,  
28009 Madrid, Spain.  
Phone: 34-1-409-7245; Fax: 34-1-409-3584

### Venue:

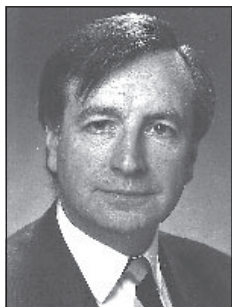
Hotel Beatriz, Carretera de Avila, km 2.750,  
Toledo, Spain.

## COUNCIL REPLACEMENTS

A number of council members will resign this year because of expiration of their allotted time in Council. These Council members are Julian Donckier from Belgium, Pierre Ronco from France, Lorenz Theilmann from Germany and Mariella Trovati from Italy and the president Arie Nieuwenhuijzen Kruseman.

As was done last year, two candidates per Council position are nominated to replace these Councilors. Council proposes not to fill in the position that becomes available when Arie Kruseman resigns, since The Netherlands is already represented by the Secretary/Treasurer. Instead, Council nominates John Martin from the United Kingdom, who is in Council already for some years, for the presidency. Next year, the Secretary/Treasurer Hein Koomans will resign. To enable a smooth transfer of his tasks, Council has decided to nominate Tjerk de Bruin, who is also from The Netherlands, already this year as Secretary/Treasurer-elect. Members of ESCI are asked to give their opinion on the nominations for the Presidency and Secretariat/Treasury and to choose by ballot paper between two nominated Council candidates for Belgium, France, Germany and Italy.

The ballot paper should be returned to the Central Office of ESCI (PO Box 332, 4130 EH Vianen, The Netherlands) before March 15th. A simple majority vote will be decisive in each case. The curriculum vitae of the nominated candidates are summarized below.



John F. Martin

**John F. Martin** is 49 years old and studied philosophy in Valladolid, Spain, from 1961 to 1965. Thereafter, he started medical training at Sheffield and was graduated in 1973. Since then, a career in internal and vascular medicine and research in the vascular system was pursued in the University of Sheffield, then in Melbourne, Australia and finally in King's College School of Medicine, London. He occupies since 1990 the British Heart Foundation Chair of Cardiovascular Science. At present he is involved in both clinical and basic research in atherogenesis, thrombosis and nitric oxide. He

is member of the ESCI Council from 1990 and also Editor-in-Chief of the European Journal of Clinical Investigation.



Tjerk de Bruin

**Tjerk de Bruin** is 39 years old and received his medical training in the Academic Hospitals of Leiden and Utrecht, The Netherlands, and in Massachusetts, USA. He is currently working at the Departments of Medicine and Endocrinology at the Utrecht Academic Hospital. His research interests are autoimmune thyroid disease and molecular medicine of lipid disorders.

**Laurence Galanti** obtained her MD degree from the University of Louvain, School of Medicine in 1980. During her training in Medical Biology, she held a research fellowship at the International Institute of Cellular and Molecular Pathology in Brussels from 1983 through 1985. Since 1986, she is



Laurence Galanti

responsible for the Division of Clinical Biochemistry at the University Hospital of Mont-Godinne. Her main interests in clinical research are the study of circulating antigens and antibodies in several infectious diseases including hepatitis B, toxoplasmosis and aspergillosis, and the development of immuno-assays for circulating vasoactive peptides. She is also conducting epidemiological studies based on the measurement of biological markers of active and passive tobacco smoking in children and young adults.



Erwin Schroeder

**Erwin Schroeder** is 39 years old and earned his medical degree from the University of Louvain, Medical School in 1978. He got his training in Internal Medicine and in Cardiology at the University of Louvain, Brussels and at the University Hospital of Basel, Switzerland (1978-1983). He was a research fellow at the Division of Cardiology at the University Hospital Eppendorf, Hamburg, Germany (Fellowship of the Alexander-von-Humboldt Foundation, Bonn, Germany) in 1983-1984, and at the Cardiovascular Center of the University of Iowa, USA (Fogarty International Fellowship, National

Institutes of Health, Bethesda, USA) in 1984-1985. Since 1985 he is a staff member of the Division of Cardiology at the University of Louvain Medical School and is now in charge of the catheterization laboratories. In clinical cardiology, his main interests are: the mechanical characteristics of the arteriosclerotic plaque during coronary angioplasty, prevention of restenosis after coronary angioplasty, assessment of flow and vasomotor changes of bypass grafts early and late after cardiac surgery.



Gérard Friedlander

**Gérard Friedlander** is 40 years old and is professor of Physiology in the University of Paris VII. He graduated in 1982 at the Saint-Antoine Medical School of Paris and finished his PhD Thesis in 1987. His scientific activities focus on physiology and pathophysiology of transporting epithelia, with special interest in hormonal modulation of transport in the kidney. He has performed studies in both in vitro models and in clinical investigations in the INSERM Unit 251 and in the Department of Physiology, Bichat Hospital, Paris.



Jean-Francois Mornex

**Jean-Francois Mornex** is 37 years old and graduated in 1978 at the Medical School of the University of Lyon, France. He received his post-doctoral training in immunology at the INSERM Unit 80 and in lung biology from 1983 to 1985 at the Pulmonary Branch of the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute, Bethesda, USA. Since 1991 he is professor in pulmonary medicine at the Hôpital Louis Pradel in Lyon, France. Since 1990 he is leading a research team within the INSERM Unit 80. His scientific activities focus on clinical aspects of pulmonary transplantation, immune mechanisms in the pathogenesis of interstitial lung disease and retroviral induced disorders.



Wilhelm Kirch

**Wilhelm Kirch** is professor of medicine, internist, nephrologist and clinical pharmacologist. He graduated from the Johannes Gutenberg-University, Mainz in 1975 and received his MD degree in 1975. He was resident and senior registrar at the Medical Department of the University Hospitals of Mainz, Kiel and Bern. At present he is teaching Internal Medicine and Clinical Pharmacology at the 1st Medical Hospital, Christian-Albrechts-University at Kiel. As from April 1st 1993 he will become director of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics at the Center of Internal Medicine of the

Technical University of Dresden. His main research interests concern clinical pharmacology, drug interactions, non-invasive haemodynamic methods, pharmacokinetic/dynamic relationship, pharmacoepidemiology, rheumatology and neuro-immunology. He was and is organizer of two workshops during annual scientific meetings of the Society: "Neuro-immunological aspects in rheumatic diseases". Pisa, April 1991 (supplement in the EJCI, 10/92) and "Cardiovascular effects of histamine and H<sub>2</sub>-receptor antagonists", Heidelberg, April 1993.



Heinrich M. Schulte

**Heinrich M. Schulte** is professor of medicine and was educated in general internal medicine and clinical endocrinology in Essen, Kiel and at the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, USA. His main clinical interests are intensive care problems, the evaluation of disorders of the hypothalamic-pituitary system including hormone deficiency- and resistance syndromes, and disorders of the adrenal glands. He published clinical pharmacological aspects of hormone metabolism, drug-hormone interactions and on the use of inferior petrosal sinus sampling in the differential diagnosis of

Cushing's syndrome. His scientific interests focus on the control of anterior pituitary hormone, mainly physiologic and pathophysiologic ACTH secretion and, more recently, on studies of the molecular biology of endocrine tumors and hormone resistance syndromes. He was organizer of several workshops during Annual Scientific Meetings of the Society.



Daniel Cusi

**Daniel Cusi** is 41 years old and was graduated in 1976. He followed a further training in Nephrology until 1979 and thereafter in Cardiology until 1982. He is an 'Established Investigator' at the University of Milano Medical School since 1980. He is recipient of several grants from CNR since 1977 and from the Italian Ministry of Education since 1983. His fields of research include physiology of renal function in man, genetics of hypertension and pharmacology, and pathophysiology of membrane transport in health and in disease (diabetes, hypertension, and haemolysis).

**Antonio E. Pontiroli** is 45 years old and was graduated in 1971. He received a degree in Endocrinology in 1973 and in Human Nutrition and Dietetics in 1975. He was an 'Established Investigator' at the University of Milano Medical School from 1975 to 1987, Research Associate at the Sinai Hospital of Detroit in 1976 and Associate Professor of Internal Medicine since 1988. He is Vice-Chairman of the Department



Antonio E. Pontiroli

of Medicine, Instituto San Raffaela, Milano, since 1981. His fields of research are physiology and pathophysiology of growth hormone and prolactin in health and disease, treatment of hyperprolactinemia, advanced therapies for type I diabetes mellitus, rational treatment of type II diabetes mellitus and administration of peptide hormones by the nasal route.

## REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

*ESCI's money problems grow rapidly in 1992*

Until recently, the Society prospered financially: a growing number of members caused the income to exceed the expenditures yearly by about Dfl 10,000 until 1989. By then, our capital had cumulated to a comfortable Dfl 174,000. In the years 1990 and 1991 our income decreased, mainly due to a decreasing number of members. Whereas our expenditures were maintained, and at the end of 1991 the Society's capital had shrunken to Dfl 159,000.

In the present report, I have to inform the members on a further and accelerated downhill course of the financial situation during 1992. Again, there has been a further decrease in paying members, but there were additional costs and disappointments in this year. First, the Annual Scientific Meeting in Vienna caused a loss of Dfl 20,000. Second, the costs of the Journal have increased due to the start of monthly Issues in 1992. The membership fee includes payment for the Journal, but has not been changed. Therefore, the increased costs of the Journal, approximating Dfl 20,000 per year, are presently fully borne by the Society. All together, these developments led to a negative balance approximating Dfl 60,000 in the past year!

It is clear that the Society can not survive this situation for long. Although some of the financial problems may be incidental, a substantial part of them is structural. During the December Council Meeting, it was decided to cut down the expenditures as much as possible. This clearly is inevitable, but at the same time insufficient: to survive, we will radically have to increase our income. To try for external money sources is one option, but these are not easy in these days, and not the Society's favourite choice. The other obvious option is to augment membership fee. Members may expect to discuss this issue during the next annual business meeting in Heidelberg.

*Hein Koomans*

## REPORT FROM THE EDITOR OF THE EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF CLINICAL INVESTIGATION

The London Office has now completed the first full year of running the European Journal of Clinical Investigation. It has proved to be a good year. Targets which we had set ourselves have been achieved. The Journal is now being published monthly. Each issue of the Journal has at least one review article in it. Rapid communications, commentaries, reports on scientific meetings and correspondence are all encouraged and have been published in the Journal over the past year. The most important improvement which we had set as our major target for the first year was to reduce the length of time between acceptance of a manuscript and its publication. This has now fallen from over 9 months to between 3 and 4 months. We are therefore now in a position to publish manuscripts more quickly than almost all of our competitors. This can only enhance the attractiveness of the Journal to European Scientists. The change in the refereeing system has given the responsibility of finding the referees to the individual expert scientific editors and this system has worked extremely well. In the majority of cases the quality of referees' reports has allowed editors to make informed comments on the value of manuscripts which has greatly helped me in the decision making process on whether or not to publish them. Authors have been quick to recognize the improvement in the feedback they receive from referees and editors and in the majority of cases to accept it with gratitude. The constructive comments and criticisms of referees and scientific editors is beginning to reach a standard which I hope will also serve to attract further submissions with the recognition that real experts are looking at people's manuscripts. A huge amount of effort has gone into the transition that is occurring in the Journal and the majority of effort has been from the individual scientific editors throughout Europe and Yvonne Hanscombe in the London Office. Hopefully the coming year will see a further consolidation of the Journal with an increase in the number of submissions and a rise in the Citation Index. We in the London Office are determined to produce a Journal of excellence but the product will only ever be as good as the manuscripts we receive to consider for publication. Members of the Society have a large responsibility; if the Society is to thrive the Journal must thrive and in order for the Journal to thrive Society members must support it with their very best work. We in turn will guarantee as fast and efficient a refereeing and decision-making process as possible.

*Alan M. McGregor*

## COURSES AND MEETINGS 1993 AT THE EMBL, HEIDELBERG

The EMBO (European Molecular Biology Organization) course and workshop programme constitutes part of the General Programme of the European Molecular Biology Conference (EMBC).

Laboratory courses are intended to teach specialized advanced or new techniques or experimental systems. They usually accommodate 15-20 students, mostly young post-doctoral research workers. The primary objective is to allow a student who takes part in such a course to return to his laboratory and begin his own experiments unaided. Participants are selected by the course organizers on the basis of scientific merit and interest.

### Application forms are available from:

*EMBO*  
Mrs. Fatcher  
Meyershof. 1  
D-6900 Heidelberg, Germany  
Phone: 6221/387-430

### Programme

#### *EMBL CONFERENCE*

10-13 May

##### **Structural biology**

S. Fuller                      D. Suck                      S. Harrison

#### *EMBL CONFERENCE*

19-22 August

##### **Mouse molecular genetics**

A. Berns                      R. Krumlauf                      A. McMahon  
H. Schöler

#### *EMBL PRACTICAL COURSE*

29 August-4 September

##### **Exploring genome information**

H. Bilofsky

#### *EMBO SYMPOSIUM*

20-23 September

##### **Sensory systems**

M. Chabre                      J.P. Changeux                      A. Ghysen  
A. Grinvald                      W. Singer                      J. Tooze

#### *EMBO PRACTICAL COURSES*

2-7 May

##### **Refinement techniques and map interpretation**

P. Metcalf                      D. Suck                      P. Tucker  
R. Wierenga

7-12 June

##### **Microinjection and electrotransfection of cells**

W. Ansorge                      R. Pepperkok                      A. Smith

20-26 June

##### **Sequence analysis and molecular evaluation**

M. Gouy                      D. Graur                      D. Higgins  
P. Sharp

5-15 September

##### **Two- and three-dimensional light microscopy**

J. de Mey                      E. Stelzer

6-17 October

##### **Methods in cell biology**

G. Griffiths

10-20 November

##### **DNA sequencing: approaches, automated methods and analysis**

W. Ansorge                      T. Kristensen                      B. Sproat  
H. Voss

6-16 December

##### **DNA-protein interactions**

P. Becker                      D. Bohman                      R. Di Lauro  
I. Mattaj                      A. Papavassiliou                      C. Santoro

### Future ESCI meetings

Toledo, April 20 - 23, 1994

Cambridge, March 29 - April 1, 1995

Dijon, 1996

*Publication of this Newsletter is made possible by a generous gift of Merck, Sharp & Dohme.*