Editorial

Happy New Year - 1987

The all-too short intermission in our hectic schedules around the end of an old and the beginning of a new year should be the time to express gratitude and appreciation for the past, and hopes and expectations for the 12 months to come. This also holds true for the editorial life of a journal. *Diabetologia* is grateful to the members of its Editorial Board who depart at the end of 1986: the Associate Editors K. D. Buchanan (Belfast), P. D. Home (Newcastle-upon-Tyne) and Y. Le Marchand-Brustel (Nice); and the members of its Advisory Board, J. P. Assal (Geneva), S. Baba (Kobe), H. Bibergeil (Karlsburg), D. Hepp (Munich), I. Mincu (Bucharest), G. M. Molinatti (Turin), H. H. Parving (Copenhagen) and A. H. Rubenstein (Chicago). Particular thanks are due to the London team of Assistant Editors who have been responsible for running the journal during the most difficult phase of its life: J. Bodansky, B. M. Dean, P. L. Drury, A. N. Gorsuch, and D. J. B. Thomas. Likewise, the Editor would like to express special thanks to G. E. Sonnenberg, who served as a most active and energetic Assistant Editor for almost 4 years before leaving Düsseldorf for the USA in August 1986. At the same time, we hail the newcomers on board, the Associate Editors J. P. Riou (Lyon), U. Smith (Göteborg), K. Toyka (Düsseldorf) and D. Williamson (Oxford), and wish them a fruitful and interesting tenure with *Diabetologia* for the next 4 years.

This should also be the opportunity to mention the generous support offered recently by Les Laboratoires Servier (France) and Novo Industri (FRG), who have enabled the Editor to distribute 40 subscriptions of *Diabetologia* to Eastern European colleagues for a period of 2 years free of charge. This is a particular example of the unselfish support of the pharmaceutical industry in helping scientists with their need to obtain access to the journal – a generosity which I hope might become an example for others to follow with regard to the distribution of a limited number of *Diabetologia* copies to various parts of the world where the necessary funding – for various reasons – is difficult to come by.

Further on in this issue you will find an announcement of the *Juvenile Diabetes Foundation International*

(JDF-I) which calls for applications for Postdoctoral Fellowships, Career Development Awards and Research Grants. The amount of funding provided by JDF-I, an organization founded in 1970 by concerned parents of diabetic children who felt that the level of research was far short of what was required to cure the disease, has been increasing over the years to reach spectacular dimensions; in fact, JDF-I has become by far the largest non-governmental funding organisation for diabetes research worldwide. It is with particular appreciation and gratitude that European diabetology welcomes the offer of the JDF-I to support European diabetes centres and research activities as well as those in North America. Thus, a number of sizable grants have already come from JDF-I to Europe during the past few years. “*Funding a Cure*”, as the JDF-I calls its Research Appropriations Programme, has become a most welcome opportunity for European investigators to obtain support and to cooperate with a generous, non-governmental and non-bureaucratic organisation of people who really care about “finding a cure”. The fact that JDF-I really cares for the future (also) of (European) diabetology is underlined by their initiative and funding of a first workshop for 80 medical students from all over Europe which will be held in January 1987 in Copenhagen – an exciting event to train (very) young colleagues in basic aspects of diabetes research and to allow them to establish personal contact with leaders in the field and exchange ideas on an international basis. Many thanks to the JDF-I for their active interest and support to European diabetology; let us hope that we will be able to justify JDF-I’s European programme in the year(s) to come.

With my very best wishes for health, peace and happiness in 1987, I remain

Yours sincerely,

Michael Berger
Düsseldorf, 1 January 1987