LETTER FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Following consultation with the AIB Executive Board, several changes have been made to *JIBS* editorial practices. These relate to the eligibility of papers previously published in conference proceedings, and to our revision turnaround deadlines.

Revision Deadlines

On January 1, 1993, a sunset clause was instigated for all papers in the review process. Authors who had been given the opportunity to revise and resubmit, had to do so within 18 months, or their paper would be treated as withdrawn.

Effective April 15, 1994, the revise-and-resubmit deadline has been reduced from 18 to 12 months for new submissions. This step has been taken to improve the timeliness of *JIBS* articles.

Eligibility of Papers Included in Conference Proceedings

Papers that are first published in conference proceedings will now be eligible for submission to *JIBS*. This change has been made in recognition of the fact that most conference proceedings have small print runs, limited distribution and readership, and no ISBN number or existing copyright.

In addition, this change is in response to requests from some of the regions. They found that our past policy sometimes resulted in a lack of submission of the best papers to regional meetings (and the concurrent lack of attendance by some of the more established researchers), and that it served as a travel-funding barrier at those institutions that required a publication.

Hence, all papers submitted to *JIBS* will be reviewed with the following understanding:

It is our understanding that this paper is substantially new, that it has not been previously published in whole (including book chapters) or in part (including exhibits), has not been previously accepted for publication, is not under consideration by any other publisher, and will not be submitted elsewhere until a decision is reached regarding its publication in *JIBS*. The only exception is papers in conference proceedings, which we treat as work-in-progress. Nonetheless, when applicable, indicate to the Editor the conference proceedings in which a version of the submission originally appeared.

Paul Beamish