

E D I T O R I A L

Dear ISS member,

As you may know, ISS has had its own journal "Stereologia" from 1962 until 1966, the first editor was Dr. E.E. Underwood, followed by Dr. R.T. DeHoff. In 1969 "Journal of Microscopy", the official organ of the Royal Microscopical Society, became also official organ of the ISS and has been offered to ISS members at a reduced price, at present of 100 US\$ per year. This journal publishes mostly methodologically interesting papers from all fields of microscopy. Also, "Newsletter in Stereology" has been issued and distributed free to ISS members between 1971 and 1980, its Editor being Dr. G. Ondraček. This journal then joined with "Stereologia Jugoslavica" /1977-1982 edited by Dr. M. Kališnik/ into a new international journal "Acta Stereologica" which is published on behalf of the ISS twice yearly, starting in 1982. "Acta Stereologica" presents its third number starting here with the second volume. With the exception of one article, denoted by the date of arrival and acceptance, it contains the rest of papers presented at Stereology 82, in Sheffield, submitted for publication in this journal. Therefore, you will find certain bias towards biological appli-

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cation in this issue. Comparing the earlier issue, this new journal covers all other aspects of stereology and image analysis as well. For the next issue, papers from all fields are invited.

ISS members have been asked to support the publication of the first number with the contribution of 20.- US\$, and they will get all following numbers by the end of 1983 free of additional charge. Although there is unanimous opinion that stereologists all over the world need such a journal in order to communicate effectively, further publication in 1984 is uncertain: the financial subvention of the ISS (5.- US\$ taken from the annual membership fee) together with subvention of local authorities is not sufficient for long terms. Therefore the readiness of some international publishers to publish the journal "Acta Stereologica" in association with the ISS is most welcome. The publishers have the intention to move to a quarterly publication as soon as the availability of acceptable manuscripts justifies this. But, on the other hand, the publishers expect, that all ISS members will subscribe the journal, at a vastly reduced rate exclusively available to ISS members. Instead of 80.- US\$ regular annual subscription fee, each ISS member may subscribe for 15.- US\$ per year. During the next general assembly of the ISS at the 6th International Congress for Stereology in Gainesville, October 10-14, 1983, ISS membership will have to decide whether "Acta Stereologica" published by an international

publisher should be offered to all members of the ISS starting with 1984 following a corresponding rise in the annual membership fee, or if distribution to ISS members should be discontinued.

This editorial is aimed to emphasize the importance of your decision concerning "Acta Stereologica". You now have the unique chance to help to establish a journal entirely devoted to stereology with all related aspects, edited on behalf of your society by an international publisher. The present situation is such that a majority of ISS members must agree to "Acta Stereologica" in order to provide an acceptable basis for printing and distribution. Since a regular journal edited on behalf of ISS would form a much broader basis for the future existence of ISS, I would like to urge you to vote in favour of our proposal and to post the enclosed postcard immediately.

I thank you in advance!



H.E. Exner, President ISS