

# Editorial

Dear Colleague

Neuroscience has been a major growth area in biological research during the past three decades and invertebrate neuroscientists have played a major role in its rapid development. However, funds for basic research are declining worldwide, and it has become necessary, more than ever before, for invertebrate neuroscientists to publicize their achievements to a wider audience. This new publication, *Invertebrate Neuroscience*, has two major aims: (i) to become a flagship journal for invertebrate neuroscientists; and (ii) to help raise the profile of invertebrate neuroscience research in the science community at large. The Editors and members of the Editorial Board do not underestimate the work that will be required to achieve these aims, but we are confident that an internationally respected publication focus for original invertebrate neuroscience which highlights the valuable contributions that our subject makes to basic knowledge, medicine and agriculture will have an impact well outside the confines of our subject.

The success of *Invertebrate Neuroscience* will be determined by the support that it receives from the worldwide invertebrate neuroscience community, particularly from younger researchers in the Spring of

their careers. By publishing the best original research papers and review articles that invertebrate neuroscience has to offer, the journal will attract the attention of scientists working in cognate fields and thereby help to secure future research support for our subject. It is important that *Invertebrate Neuroscience* quickly achieves a high impact, but this will only happen if the Editors apply rigorous but fair peer review and editorial policies. Particular attention will be given to the development of the journal's international ratings and, with the agreement of the Editorial Board, the Editors will adjust publication policy to maximize these performance parameters.

The novelty of combining research papers and review articles with a comprehensive bibliography of recent papers in invertebrate neuroscience is intended further to underline the service-to-the-community mission of *Invertebrate Neuroscience*. The Editors look forward to receiving comments from the community concerning this service, and advice on how to improve the journal.

P. N. R. Usherwood  
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