Editorial 2006

I am pleased to confirm that *Journal of Petrology* continues to be widely acknowledged as a premier journal in the field of igneous, metamorphic and experimental petrology. The number of high-quality manuscripts we receive increases at an encouraging rate, with a significant number of submissions coming from petrologists in China and Japan. Our citation rating for 2004 remains high at 2·798.

Our new online manuscript submission and editorial management system will come live in late January 2006 after extensive trials. This system, which will be hosted by the American company ScholarOne, will allow authors to submit their manuscripts electronically and to track their progress through the system. We hope that this will speed up the review process considerably. However, we recognize that JoP manuscripts are typically 12,000–15,000 words long and that electronic submission may not necessarily be welcomed by all potential reviewers.

*Journal of Petrology* now provides Advance Access on its website to articles that have been copy-edited and typeset but not yet paginated for inclusion in an issue of the Journal. This has dramatically reduced to only 6–8 weeks the time from acceptance of a manuscript to publication and is clearly something that all our authors (and readers) appreciate.

With electronic information now commonplace, readers increasingly expect to find all the Journal content online, whether it is today’s cutting-edge research or ideas from the more distant past. To address the growing need for older content, Oxford Journals has recently undertaken a huge digitization project and has now scanned all of the previous issues of the Journal back to Issue 1 in 1960. These are available as an online archive to which libraries can subscribe at a modest additional cost to the normal Journal subscription or can purchase outright.

The subject of Open Access to the contents of scientific journals continues to be hotly debated. Oxford Journals has been at the forefront of this debate and has been trialling a number of different models. During the course of 2006 we hope to announce new opportunities for Open Access publication in *Journal of Petrology* for those authors who wish to follow this route.

Oxford Journals recently signed an agreement with the Dutch Koninklijke Bibliotheek (KB) to secure long-term digital archiving of Oxford Journals’ entire collection. Under the terms of this agreement the KB will receive digital copies of all current and digitized back-archive journal issues made available on the Oxford Journals online platform. Being able to guarantee secure, long-term preservation of everything that Oxford Journals publishes online is a key requirement for authors, subscribers and readers. This agreement will safeguard *Journal of Petrology* content in perpetuity.

I would like to express my personal thanks to the members of the Editorial and Advisory Boards for all their hard work on behalf of the Journal. Nick Arndt and Dennis Geist have had to stand down from the Editorial Board this year because of other commitments. However, I am pleased to welcome new Editor Wendy Bohrson to the Editorial Board.

I would also like to thank my Editorial Assistant, Alastair Lumsden, our Copy Editors, Joyce Weddell and Christine Whittle, Production Team members and the Senior Editor in the Journals Division at OUP for all their help behind the scenes. My task as Executive Editor would be impossible without their support, which is much appreciated.

Finally, on behalf of the Editorial Board, I would like to thank all of those of you who reviewed manuscripts for the *Journal* in 2003. Peer review remains the best way of identifying high-quality science and it is a demanding task.

Marjorie Wilson
Executive Editor

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