EDITORIAL

Ben M. Dunn, Co-Editor-in-Chief

In this issue we inaugurate a new feature of PROTEIN and PEPTIDE LETTERS: The Short Review. The first contribution, from Jordan Tang and Gerald Koelsch, presents a new hypothesis to account for the specificity and efficiency of one class of enzymes, the aspartic proteinases.

In their discussion, they cite relevant literature reports and present a provocative suggestion to account for the hydrophobic specificity normally observed for enzymes such as pepsin, cathepsin D, and the retroviral proteases, represented therein by HIV-1 PR. They also suggest experimental tests of their hypothesis. PPL will welcome future contributions that present evidence that relates to the questions raised by Tang and Koelsch.

The Short Reviews section will also include contributions that concisely review an area of protein or peptide structure-function relationships. Authors interested in such a contribution should first contact either Co-Editor-in-Chief at the addresses given on the inside front cover by mail, phone, fax, or email. Short Reviews should be formatted in the same fashion as regular manuscripts (instructions on inside back cover), and are also submitted as camera-ready text with all figures placed on the pages. One major difference is that Short Reviews may be up to 12 pages in length, while regular reports should be 2, 4, 6, or 8 pages.