

## **Publication Report to the SEB Annual General Meeting - Glasgow, 2011**

Our publications have continued to go from strength to strength both in terms of scientific profile and profitability. Whether you measure progress in terms of submissions, reject rate, rank position in league tables or impact factors they are all performing well.

Plant Biotechnology Journal was first published in 2003 and with Keith Edwards firm leadership has now clearly established its place in the market. As with all journals submissions vary greatly month to month which makes it difficult to plan, especially with a fairly young and small journal. It is to the credit of Keith, the editors and production staff that these issues have been handled so smoothly.

Shortly after Christoph Benning took over as editor in chief of The Plant Journal Irene Haines decided it was time to retire. She has done a splendid job as Managing Editor since the inception of the journal and as a thank you the editors arranged with support from Wiley Blackwell and the SEB a thank you dinner. To take full advantage of the changes in methods of publishing the SEB and Wiley Blackwell decided that it was time to move the editorial office to Oxford. The move went very smoothly thanks to the excellent support provided by Wiley Blackwell.

Journal of Experimental Botany has also continued to develop. It has continued to have the majority of its papers open access and has continued to maintain a steady readership base. As with the other journal it has provided much needed funds to support the society.

Two volumes of the new Essential series were published last year and at the time of writing the next two, *Advances in Maize and Glycosylation in Diverse Cell Systems: Challenges and New Frontiers in Experimental Biology*, may just make it onto the shelves for this year's annual meeting.

We do not fully exploit the expertise within the Society to publish science that encompass most of our activities. We really need the membership to come forward with suggestions both for new journals and new volumes for the Essential series. There are proposal forms for suggesting volumes for the Essential Series. Making a suggestion does not mean that you have to edit the book. If members can identify the opportunities and suggest possible editors the publication committee and SEB office can follow up the possibility.

Altogether then we have had a good year but there is no room for complacency. The scientific world is still struggling, publishing and printing models are continually changing so we must keep our eyes open and try to keep stepping in the right direction.

I would like to thank our editors in chief Christoph Benning, Keith Edwards and Jerry Roberts together with their editorial boards ably supported by their editorial offices

for keeping our journals moving forward. I must also thank the SEB office who have provided their usual high quality service despite a change of CEO and Ellie Carr who got the Essentials series off the ground moving on to higher things.

Professor Mike Burrell  
Honorary Publications Officer