80955-2219(96)00064-7

Editorial

Although every effort is made to ensure prompt publication of the work which we receive (and there will be a further increase in the size of the Journal next year to assist this prompt publication), it can nonetheless happen that authors are particularly concerned to see the rapid appearance of work where, for example, they wish to present new concepts or unexpected results which invite discussion. To recognise this need, the Editorial Board of the Journal has suggested that a 'Short Reports' section be introduced where concise papers (four printed pages or less) can be presented and where a more rapid pattern of publication can be made available. Guidance for the preparation of Short Reports is similar to that for regular papers except that the length is limited to four pages (one page corresponding to approximately 900 words with appropriate reduction for figures).

In proposing this initiative, there is no suggestion that a variation in the standard of quality between regular articles and Short Reports will occur and no distinction in paging, referencing or citation is accordingly involved. The wish is simply to set aside space (typically 10%) in a distinctive section at the back of each issue, for those short articles where particular urgency or interest can be seen to arise.

Richard Brook