

## Editor's Report for June 2001–May 2003

### Simon Easteal, June 2003

It has been an honor to serve as Editor of *Molecular Biology and Evolution*. The task has been both rewarding and onerous, and it is with mixed feelings that I make my final report. I will miss being intimately involved with journal production and the challenges of anticipating and responding to the ever-changing scientific publishing environment, but I also relish the prospect of once again having time to devote to research.

I will miss the interaction with publishers, authors and members of SMBE, with the hardworking Associate Editors whose dedication and careful judgment are at the heart of the success of MBE, and with Liz Raffaele, who has done such an outstanding job as Editorial Assistant for the entire period of my editorship.

During my time as Editor, MBE has gone online, manuscript submission numbers have doubled, we have moved from publishing the journal ourselves to having it published by Oxford University Press, and we have implemented an online manuscript submission system.

It has been a pleasure working with Oxford University Press, and the transition earlier this year was remarkably smooth, considering the number of things that had to be achieved.

Six long-serving Associate Editors—Julian Adams, Ross Crozier, Rodney Honeycutt, Jeffrey Long, Fumio Tajima, and William Taylor—left the journal this year. They all made valuable contributions, for which I am greatly appreciative. The following new Associate Editors joined during the year: Scott Edwards, David Goldstein, Michael Nachman, Spencer Muse, Jonathon Eisen, Claudia Schmidt-Dannert, Mark Springer, and Michele Vendruscolo.

SMBE is extremely fortunate to have secured the services of Bill Martin to succeed me as Editor. Bill has been an exceptional Associate Editor, and I know he will do an outstanding job as Editor. I look forward to seeing the journal's success continuing under his stewardship, as I know it will.