## **Editor's Foreword**

Professor Michael Tombs has now retired as Editor of *Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering Reviews*. During his period as Editor he continued the work of the founding editor Professor Russell in establishing *BGER* as a leader in the field with a successful blend of industrial and biomedically based invited articles written by distinguished operators. I do not propose to change this successful formula, with the exception that after consultation with the Editorial Board all articles from Volume 16 onwards are now sent to an independent reviewer prior to acceptance for publication.

Although invited reviews form the cornerstone of *BGER* we will continue to welcome contributions from other workers in the field for consideration for publication: those considering submitting a review should contact either myself (email: Steve.Harding@nottingham.ac.uk; Fax: 0044–115–951–6142) or any member of the Editorial Board.

Stephen E. Harding Nottingham, October 1998