

EDITORIAL

Some years ago we considered extending the subject matter of *Solar Physics* to include the area of solar phenomena observed on other stars. In the years since we first discussed this, the solar-stellar connection has grown and considerable progress has been made in this field.

It seems to the Editors and to the Editorial Board that the scientific justification for including some solar-stellar papers in *Solar Physics* is more compelling now than ever. The two fields have grown closer together in recent years. Both solar and stellar physicists will benefit from the improved communication that will result from sharing the pages of a journal. It is clear that each group has much to learn from closer contact with the other.

Solar physics is a field which has connections both to stellar physics and to solar-terrestrial physics. Our journal already publishes papers in the solar-terrestrial field, and we view the proposed broadened scope as a symmetrical extension of this policy to the other end of the disciplinary spectrum.

A good opportunity presents itself now to begin such an expansion of our journal. The Editors have arranged for the publication in this volume of the proceedings of IAU Colloquium No. 104, 'Solar and Stellar Flares'. We intend to publish some invited reviews in the solar-stellar field in our journal in the near future. A letter to the international solar-stellar field has already invited contributed papers to the journal on this topic. We have recently expanded the subtitle of *Solar Physics* to include solar-stellar research, we have elected stellar physicists to three positions on the Editorial Board starting with the beginning of 1989, and we will continue such representation in future Board elections. It has been agreed between the three editors that papers dealing with solar-stellar research will be handled by Cornelis de Jager (Utrecht).

We now welcome contributed papers on the solar-stellar connection, and the Editors promise the solar-stellar community, as we promise the solar community, that we will adhere to the highest scientific and editorial standards. We intend to maintain a journal from which both communities can benefit, and we anticipate that a healthy synergism will develop within the pages of *Solar Physics*. Both fields will advance from a broader physical understanding of phenomena which are common to the two disciplines.

We welcome your comments and suggestions about these changes. We feel that this step will broaden and strengthen our journal and ultimately advance both of these closely related fields.

CORNELIS DE JAGER, ZDENĚK ŠVESTKA, and ROBERT F. HOWARD
Solar Physics Editors