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The last years have seen impressive developments in basic research in the fields of biomedical sciences which are accompanied by changes in the approaches how major research projects are being planned and performed. The borders between traditional disciplines like morphology, physiology and biochemistry that used to be defined by methodology have largely disappeared, and the nature of modern research has become increasingly multidisciplinary.

Acta Anatomica was founded as a morphological journal in 1945, a time when the methodologically defined subdivisions of fields were still considered very important. The journal has since maintained a tradition of publishing high-quality papers in modern biology, but emphasis has increasingly been switched to functional aspects of cell and developmental biology requiring interdisciplinary experimental approaches.

We now feel that the time has come to take the next step in making these changes in focus apparent. With this first issue of 1999, the journal will appear under a new name and cover: *Cells Tissues Organs – in vivo, in vitro*. Increased emphasis will be placed on emerging fields such as tissue engineering, artificial organs, in vitro systems, transplantation biology, and computational neuroscience, fields that are beginning to use the discoveries of cell biology, developmental biology, and neurosciences in novel and systematic ways. Several new and outstanding scientists will be added to our editorial board,

and we hope that these appointments emphasize our desire to connect with new contributors in cell biology, developmental biology, and neurosciences. The logo and the cover are changed and incorporate more extensive use of color. Our publishers will continuously improve the online access and the web-site of our journal. Key to our mission of improving our ability to serve constituents in these new and emerging integrative fields is our recognition of the strength of our current contributors. For this reason some of the best aspects of *Acta Anatomica* will be retained in *Cells Tissues Organs*. CTO is a newly named journal with a new look and an expanded emphasis, not a completely new journal. The volume numbering system of *Acta Anatomica* will be continued, as well as the current editorial board members. Quality papers in more traditional fields of biology will continue to appear in CTO. The same rapid and fair peer review and the exquisite production quality that distinguished *Acta Anatomica* will continue to be found in *Cells Tissues Organs*. We invite you to use CTO as your preferred forum of exchange of your hot research news in modern functional morphology with emphasis on bridging the gap between basic sciences and the wide emerging field of exciting applications in biomedicine including biomedical engineering.

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