

Six Years and Counting

How time flies! *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces* begins its seventh year of publishing with this issue. As we begin the New Year, we want to thank the *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces* community of readers, authors and reviewers for their hard work that has helped to make the journal a success. By all metrics, *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces* is established as the leading venue for publishing research in the field of applications focused materials and interfaces. The journal has been growing in many ways, including the number of papers submitted and published, the number of citations per year and per article, and the impact factor. The growth has provided opportunities, including the addition of several new editors in 2014, with more to come in 2015. Specifically, in 2014, we welcomed Pi-Tai Chou of National Taiwan University, David Beljonne of the University of Mons, and Zaiping Guo of the University of Wollongong as *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces* Editors. In 2015, we look forward to David Whitten of the University of New Mexico and Tao Wu of King Abdullah University of Science and Technology joining as *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces* Editors.

Another important change at *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces* is the move to a weekly publication schedule effective with this issue. This change will decrease the number of papers published in each issue, making the content more accessible to our readers. In addition, the more frequent publishing schedule will allow papers to be published with the full citation more quickly, and also lead to more rapid indexing. Another change that will be coming in the spring is the addition of table of contents section headers, which will group articles in related areas of application together in a more reader-friendly format.

We also take this opportunity to announce that the call is open for nominations for the first *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces* Young Investigator Award. Nominations are solicited for scientists and engineers in the journal community who are 15 years or less from their highest degree. The winner will receive a monetary award and deliver a lecture at the Fall Meeting of the American Chemical Society in Boston, MA, USA. Please refer to the submission guidelines for more information.

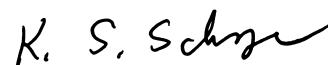
We draw to your attention the three Forums (partial special issues) published in *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces* in 2014 reflecting in their diversity of topics the broad scope of the journal and exemplifying in their content the quality and applied focus of the journal. The first of these, titled "Applications of Hierarchical Polymeric Materials from Nano to Macro" and edited by Mary Ann Meador was based on some of the most exciting developments and challenges reported in a workshop on polymer composites and high-performance polymers held in July 2013 by the ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry. The second, titled "New Materials and Approaches for Electrochemical Storage" was edited by Yiyang Wu and guest edited by Brent Melot and captures exciting new developments in supercapacitors, lithium-ion batteries, and battery technologies beyond lithium ion. Most recently, the Forum titled "Materials for Theranostics" edited by Chunhai

Fan captures cutting edge work from leading groups on innovative improvements in materials designed for theranostic application. Looking forward to 2015, we are planning to celebrate the success of the journal over the last six years by organizing a virtual Forum showcasing some exemplary articles that have been published. Look out for this on the journal Web site in the spring around the time of the 249th ACS National Meeting.

The *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces* editors have been enthusiastic participants in the ACS Editors' Choice program, which was launched in 2014 to highlight leading articles published in ACS journals by marking them as Editors' Choice, providing them with a dedicated webpage and making them open access at no cost to the authors. The *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces* Editors' Choice Articles (13 in 2014) covering a wide range of topics may be listed on the ACS Editors' Choice Web site by selecting *ACS Applied Materials & Interface* as the journal filter.

Finally, some important details for our authors to read and consider. We strongly encourage authors to pay careful attention to detail as you prepare your work for submission. To help authors, we have been working to enhance the *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces* Instructions to Authors, which provides guidance to authors for the technical layout of their manuscripts. Several ACS Editors have worked collaboratively to create a virtual special issue consisting of Editorials touching on many aspects of scientific publishing, including manuscript preparation, peer review, and ethics.

Thanks again to our community for their strong support of *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces*. We look forward to another stellar year in publishing research in the field of applied materials and interfaces.



Kirk S. Schanze, Editor in Chief



Jonathan J. Mallett, Managing Editor

■ AUTHOR INFORMATION

Notes

Views expressed in this editorial are those of the authors and not necessarily the views of the ACS.

Published: January 14, 2015

