

Six Proud Years: Building a Solid Foundation to Advance Applied Materials Science and Interfaces Research

When *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces* (ACS AMI) began publishing six years ago, it was intended to provide a venue within ACS Publications for publication of work in the field of applications-focused materials and interfaces research. At the outset, the editors made this objective clear, stating in the 2009 inaugural editorial¹ that “*ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces* is focused on the interplay between application and fundamental science and engineering, with emphasis placed on novel and significant applications made possible by advances in the synthesis, processing, or fabrication of new materials.” In this way, from the very beginning, ACS AMI distinguished its unique applications-focused scope from the fundamental materials and interface science and engineering that was covered by previously established materials-oriented ACS journals.

The sustained rapid growth of the journal from its inception to the present time, as shown in Table 1 below, is a testament to the

Table 1. Growth of ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces^a

year	issues	papers published	impact factor	no. of editors
2009	12	401		3
2010	12	542	2.925	5
2011	12	669	4.525	6
2012	12	958	5.008	9
2013	24	1800	5.900	12
2014	24	2779		17
2015	51			>20

^aData from Thompson Reuters Web of Science database.

increasing global importance of applied materials and interfaces research, and to the success of ACS AMI at publishing a large share of high-quality papers in the field. Indeed, ACS AMI is now the second largest ACS journal based on published articles in 2014. Perhaps even more noteworthy is the steadily rising Impact Factor (IF) of the journal, which is indicative of the high quality and importance to the community of the work published in the journal. The ACS AMI editors and journal support staff constantly strive to attract high-quality submissions and to maintain a rigorous but expeditious review process to select and improve the most appropriate of those for publication. We are also proud of the significant geographic diversity of the journal, as shown in Figure 1.

We are pleased to announce many positive changes to the journal for 2015, including a move to publishing weekly issues; the addition of three new editors, with more to follow; and the introduction in 2015 of an annual ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces Young Investigator Award to be presented at Fall National Meetings. To acknowledge the tremendous support we have had in Asia, we will be holding a special ACS AMI China Symposium this April in Beijing. But most of all, we look forward to seeing even more great manuscripts from our authors in the coming months and years.

In celebration of the journal, we have put together an historical virtual issue, which is featured on the cover of this print issue. The

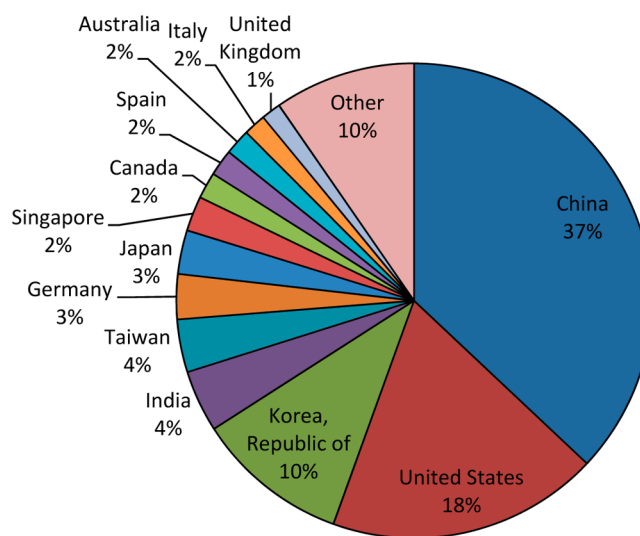


Figure 1. Geographic Distribution of published 2014 articles by country of submitting author (data from Thompson Reuters Web of Science database).

editors have collaborated to collect a set of what we consider to be exemplary ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces articles dating from the first issues of the journal to the present time. Several of these have been highlighted by news coverage, have appeared on an ACS AMI cover, or have been included as part of an ACS AMI Forum (http://pubs.acs.org/page/aamick/celebrating_6_years.html). Some of the more recent ones have been selected for ACS Editors' Choice, and others have been promoted via the journal's Twitter account. However, these articles came to our attention, the ACS AMI editors think that they showcase the quality, breadth of scope, applied focus, and geographic diversity of the journal. We take this opportunity to offer a special thanks to the authors of the virtual issue articles and to wish them continued success in their work, which we hope to see published in ACS AMI. At the same time, we acknowledge the work of all of our authors and reviewers and the support of our readers and advisory board members. We hope that these samples provided by the virtual issue stimulate even wider interest in the journal.

Kui Yu, Associate Editor

Jonathan J. Mallett, Managing Editor

Kirk S. Schanze, Editor-in-Chief

AUTHOR INFORMATION

Notes

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

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- (1) Schanze, K. S. *ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces* **2009**, *1*, 1–3.

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