

Virtual Issue on Catalysis at ETH Zurich



ETH Zurich's Campus Science City at Hoenggerberg (Source: ETH Zurich/vision on wings/Manfred Richter)

ETH Zurich has come to symbolize educational excellence, groundbreaking research, and scientific and technological advancement. Founded in 1855, today ETH offers an inspiring environment for researchers and students alike as a world-leading university. A primary objective of ETH Zurich is to find longterm solutions to global challenges and to transfer them to the public and private sectors, bringing benefits to society at large.

With 10 Nobel Laureates having studied, taught, or conducted research in chemistry at the University, ETH Zurich enjoys a long tradition and excellent reputation in this discipline. As a particular hallmark of ETH Zurich, catalysis is an indispensable operational tool for sustainable development, enabling the improved exploitation of feedstocks, reducing the energy demands, and minimizing the environmental impact of chemical reactions. At present, the catalysis discipline is being researched in nearly every shape and expression (bio-, homo-, hetero-, electro-), covering the span of length scales from nano (atoms and molecules) to macro (reactors and processes). This union of science and engineering is unique and promotes cross-cutting approaches for the conception and design of new generations of catalytic processes.

By interlinking emerging research from the distinct disciplines, ACS Catalysis aims to foster synergies within the catalysis field. An idea promoted by the journal has been the assembly of Virtual Issues (American Chemical Society; Virtual and Special Issues; ACS Catalysis; http://pubs.acs.org/page/accacs/special-issues/ index.html) spotlighting specific institutions or organizations with strong reputations in catalysis. The first in the series, entitled "Catalysis at ETH", (Virtual Issue on Catalysis at ETH Zurich; http://pubs.acs.org/page/accacs/vi/eth.html) was motivated by the rich heritage and by the depth and breadth of the research currently embraced at ETH Zurich. Pioneers such as Georg Bredig and distinguished names in modern times such as Piero Pino, Luigi Venanzi, Alfons Baiker, Dieter Seebach, and Roel Prins, to list a few, have paved the way for younger generations to continue the challenging mission of controlling reactivity in catalytic systems from the origins at the molecular level to the application in reactors at the industrial scale.

I hereby thank the Editor-in-Chief, Christopher Jones, and the Managing Editor, David J. Smith, for their support in this initiative and all my esteemed colleagues for contributing excellent Articles, Reviews, and Perspectives. We hope that the readership of ACS Catalysis will enjoy this collection.

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