Long-Term Impact

With this issue, we have completed our first full year and Volume 2. We have seen extraordinary science and thank you for your support as authors, reviewers, and readers. We are off to a tremendous start, and we thought it might be helpful to give you insight into how we operate the journal as editors, and what is coming in the future. Many of you have sent thoughtful comments and encouragement for which we are indeed most grateful. As always, we welcome suggestions from you.

We strive to capture papers with lasting impact.

When we started *ACS Nano*, we set out to gather and to publish scholarly, comprehensive articles in nanoscience and nanotechnology in one place, so that we at the intersections of many scientific communities might learn from each other and in so doing advance our fields. In order to make this happen, the Editors of *ACS Nano* have regular, challenging and thought-provoking conversations about specific articles and about entire fields. When we receive a manuscript, all editors with related interests and knowledge contribute to the discussion. No one editor rejects a manuscript without review. Some of the papers that would have been dismissed by one editor have been championed by another, and have become among the highest impact papers that we have published. Manuscripts that are reviewed require at least two substantive reviews[1] by experts in the field; these referees are hand-selected for each manuscript to ensure both deep knowledge and keen interest in the work. Manuscripts and reviews are then discussed among the editors knowledgeable in the field(s) discussed. Despite these joint efforts and thorough reviews, we have been able to keep turn-around times brief—our average time from submission to final decision, including author revisions, is now only 40 days, and it has been dropping steadily.

We strive to capture papers with lasting impact. When one went to the library at Bell Laboratories to look up a key paper such as the one describing the invention of the transistor,[2] the pages were worn thin because so many had gone to read that paper over the years. We seek and select papers that will bear the test of time (and we use thicker, higher quality paper for the print version of our journal). Pierre Lurton, winemaker at Chateau Cheval Blanc and more recently Chateau d'Yquem (see figure) described how wines that are newly bottled and ones that are decades old can both have extraordinary complexity and depth as well as "freshness". We believe that the best papers have and keep these qualities as well. Before and after each issue, we review the contents to look at the papers appearing, discuss how they were selected, and how they fit in the journal and the field. This guides our actions as editors, and we believe that it is improving *ACS Nano*. We hope you agree, and we solicit your papers whose pages will suffer wear.

IMAGES COURTESY OF P. S. WEISS

Pierre Lurton, at Chateau d'Yquem, with a bottle of Thomas Jefferson's 1784 vintage (Jefferson's favorite) from the cellar, and a Nebuchadnezzar (15 L) bottle of the 2005, the most recently bottled vintage.

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For each issue, using a variety of formats, we ask experts in the field to describe where they believe the field is going and the key challenges that lie ahead.[3−5] We have found these to be most interesting, and have a great line-up coming in the new year.

The response to these approaches has been overwhelming. We have seen steady growth in terms of top manuscripts submitted; we thank you for this. In order to increase our breadth as editors, and to keep up with the increasing submissions, we are delighted to welcome two new Associate Editors to *ACS Nano*, starting January 2009. Both have been contributors as well as thoughtful advisers and referees.[6−8]

Prof. Jillian Buriak of the University of Alberta Department of Chemistry holds the Canada Research Chair of Nanomaterials and is Group Leader and Senior Research Officer at the National Institute for Nanotechnology. She and her group study self-assembling systems, surface and interfacial chemistry of semiconductors, synthesis of functional monolayers, photovoltaics, and catalysis.

Prof. Nicholas Kotov of the University of Michigan Departments of Chemical Engineering, Materials Science and Engineering, and Biomedical Engineering will also be joining as an Associate Editor. His group's research focuses on the control of the organization of matter at the nanoscale for selective tuning of optical, electrical, biological, and mechanical functionalities. His work includes nanoparticle synthesis, self-assembly phenomena, biological functionalities of nanocolloids, composite nanomaterials, and layer-by-layer assembly of nanostructures.

Prof. Jillian Buriak of the University of Alberta and Prof. Nick Kotov of the University of Michigan will be joining *ACS Nano* as Associate Editors starting in January.

Please join us in welcoming Profs. Buriak and Kotov to our editorial team. We are excited to work with them and are sure you will be pleased with the increased strength of the journal. Lastly, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you and to wish you a wonderful, productive, and peaceful new year both at the nanoscale and globally.

Paul S. Weiss
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