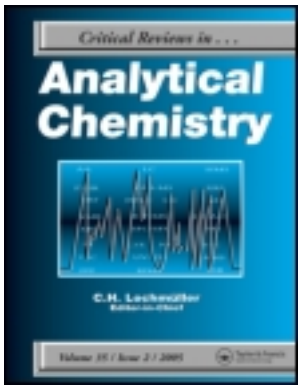

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Letter from the Editor

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Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

There is a great deal of talk presently and in the recent past that centers on "green" solutions for the environment. Carbon dioxide from fossil fuel combustion may add to global warming or climate change and so we need green alternatives. Exxon has spent millions to examine algae as a way to convert carbon dioxide in flue gas to a green alternative. One product is hydrocarbon oil that may be used as bio-fuel. You rarely hear a question asking how burning algae-produced hydrocarbon as a vehicle fuel is done while avoiding carbon dioxide formation. The examples of "green enthusiasm" are legion and rarely include such questions as how many years are necessary to recover investment in wind power or solar panels.

Green chemistry includes both important advances and cases where the "trendy" name is attached to old chemistry in the current age. Truth is, the replacement of more toxic solvents with considerably less toxic and closed system recycling was begun before "green" became a desirable adjective. This issue of the Journal has a first in that we have a paper on Green Methods of Analysis. Methods for quality control can generate tons of hazardous waste at each location per year. I am hoping this will encourage reviews from others that deal with miniaturization, reagent replacement, alternative methods, etc. As someone who served on the U.S.P. Committee of Revision for almost two decades, I know the inertia to change for compendial methods and why it exists. How can we change such methods to greener results given the work needed to validate compendial methods Is it a science policy problem?

Prof. C. H. Lochmüller
Editor-in-Chief