

# A New Year and a new look for *Drug Discovery Today*

On behalf of the *Drug Discovery Today* editorial team, I would like to extend our best wishes and thanks to you for helping us to achieve a successful 2003.

As you can see, we have made some changes to the front cover of *Drug Discovery Today*, the most prominent being our new journal logo. This new design has also been incorporated into our sister journals *BIOSILICO* and *TARGETS*, which have been renamed *Drug Discovery Today: BIOSILICO* and *Drug Discovery Today: TARGETS*, respectively. We have also added the Elsevier logo to our covers, and together these changes will signify both the close synergy of these journals with each other, as well as their part in Elsevier's pharmaceutical resources as a whole.

In response to comments from contributors and readers we have also made significant changes to the Monitor section. Following this feedback, we thought long and hard about whether or not the Monitor section was providing exactly what our readership wanted. We solicited opinion and decided that we were losing an opportunity to highlight and concentrate on a wider range of topical issues. The result was the revamped Monitor section that you can see in this issue. We made the decision to include a greater number of shorter, punchier articles related to medicinal chemistry. In addition, we now include the News in Brief and People sections and other news-related items under the overall Monitor heading. This will provide concise information on recent developments in both the chemistry and biology aspects of the drug discovery industry, as well as changes in key pharma industry personnel, and business and patent news.

2003 has been a busy year for launches, most notably the launch of *Drug Discovery Today: BIOSILICO* in March. Even in this short time, *Drug Discovery Today: BIOSILICO* has established itself as one of the leaders in the provision of news, reviews and analysis of the issues and technologies emerging at the interface between the life sciences and information technology. Later in the year there was another significant launch, that of the Drug Discovery Gateway (<http://www.ElsevierLifeSciences.com/drug-discovery>), which is hosted on BioMedNet. The Gateway features expertly selected news, reviews and content from the leading publications in drug discovery, including *Drug Discovery Today*, *Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry*, *Advanced Drug Delivery Reviews*, *Chemistry & Biology* and *Cell*.

As always, we have endeavoured to improve the content of articles within *Drug Discovery Today* in 2003. We believe that the level of downloads of the full text of our articles suggests that we have been successful in this respect. Our 10 most-downloaded reviews of 2003 on ScienceDirect (<http://www.sciencedirect.com>) covered issues as diverse as business strategy, novel therapeutics, medicinal chemistry, approaches to treating cancer, technologies and systems biology. These reviews were written by highly regarded authors such as Jürgen Drews, Edward Kerns, Marek Los, Carl Barrett, Vladimir Torchilin, Sumit Chanda, Peter Mathisen, Eugene Davidov, Julian Adams, David Lane, Gerhard Müller and Al Kolb. We pledge to maintain the high quality of our authors and reviews in 2004.

To maintain and improve our coverage of medicinal chemistry we are becoming more closely involved with prestigious Elsevier chemistry titles such as *Tetrahedron*. To this end, in 2003 we promoted and supported *Tetrahedron* in its July symposium in Oxford. We are continuing with this collaboration by supporting the *Tetrahedron* symposium in New York in June 2004. More details of this joint symposium will be given in the coming months in *Drug Discovery Today*.

All that remains is for me to wish you all a successful and productive 2004 and I hope that you will continue to look to *Drug Discovery Today* to provide you with valuable, cutting-edge, up-to-date science related to drug discovery. I encourage you to contact me with your opinions of how *Drug Discovery Today* is addressing issues relating to drug discovery. It is by responding to your needs that we will be able to maintain *Drug Discovery Today* at the pinnacle of publications catering for the pharmaceutical industry.

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