
Editorial

We have been prompted by authoritative scientists, long active in the field of the Chemistry and Technology of f-Block Elements, to provide a means of rapidly disseminating specialized scientific information, which should be open to the various facets of this discipline.

Before extending an invitation to contribute to the success of this venture we reached the following conclusions:

- In the past few years there has been an increasing number of Conferences, Meetings, Schools etc. devoted to specific aspects of f-block element chemistry. This chemistry has not attracted the interest that one might have expected, unlike that which is apparent for the coordination and organometallic chemistry of d-elements, in spite of the significant advances in the field of organometallic compounds of f-block elements, in both the areas of synthesis and of catalysis.
- The various technological processes involving f-block elements make up a body of knowledge that is bound to be shared by those interested in basic research. This creates opportunities for exchange of information and experience among researchers of different scientific and technological background.
- There is a broad consensus on the need for a homogeneous aggregation of papers published in the field in question, papers which are often difficult to find due to their presently being scattered among a variety of journals some of which are on the verge of extinction.

Based on these arguments we have come to the conclusion that although it would be unwise to start up a new journal, we strongly hold that the above needs should be adequately fulfilled by making room in an already existing journal, for a Section devoted to the basic and applied chemistry of f-block elements.

We trust we can rely on the active collaboration of an interested scientific community for both paper submission and for their invaluable help in providing the refereeing service.

UGO CROATTO
Editor