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# Journal of Catalysis

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## Editorial

### More about the future, less about the past

Those who read these lines have most likely read the farewell of Enrique Iglesia in the last issue of the *Journal of Catalysis*. He has served as Editor-in-Chief for the last twelve years and has done so with the scholarly rigor that marks his contributions to the field as much as his stewardship with regard to the Journal. Together with Roel Prins, Enrique has helped to modernize the journal, while cultivating its legacy, led it through the transition from Academic Press to Elsevier and, last but not least, managed a larger than ever group of editors, a group in which I had the pleasure to work over the last five years. The best witness of the insight, tact and wisdom of an Editor-in-Chief is the fact that the community readily accepts his decisions and in that aspect Enrique deserves the highest recognition. It is an important aspect that has helped to maintain and strengthen the healthy state of the *Journal of Catalysis* as the premier and archival journal of our catalysis community. In the name of all editors I thank Enrique for his dedicated service and for the support he provided in difficult cases. We will continue to respect and enjoy his advice, but I suspect that it will be not as frequent as it has been.

Our team has grown significantly from the two founding editors to a present total of seven. I am grateful to Roel Prins, the editor for all of the Asian manuscripts, and to Graham Hutchings, Matt Neurock, Hans Niemantsverdriet, and Ted Oyama for their willingness to jointly edit the journal. On behalf of all of the editors, I warmly welcome Fabio Ribeiro as the newest member of our team. The breadth and volume of contributions to the journal asks for such a group of editors and it is their insight into the diverse fields of catalysis that gives me confidence and excitement about the future.

In the last decade, we have witnessed the explosive growth in catalysis, as nearly every field of chemistry has acquired a strong emphasis on understanding and using catalysis as the ultimate synthesis approach. Some of these developments have occurred in areas, where catalysis had already played a role, but was not viewed as an enabling tool, whereas some have sprung up within entirely new fields. Catalysis aided by light and organocatalysis are two examples for such latter areas. This has led not only to an increase in the number of journals dedicated to catalysis, but

it has helped also that a larger fraction of catalysis related papers are now published in journals devoted to general chemistry.

Let me stress, therefore, the mission of the *Journal of Catalysis* at this point. Our goal is and always has been to publish insightful papers in the field of catalysis and to emphasize principles and concepts of archival nature. Their quality and diversity are of the highest important to us, as we strive to provide the catalysis community with a rigorous forum, in which related problems, theoretical and experimental approaches to solve them and the results of these approaches are presented across the various disciplines of catalysis ranging from chemistry on single crystal surfaces to reactions on complex solid catalysts and with molecular complexes. Atomic and molecular level insights are the common denominator. Chemical engineering and theoretical chemistry also provide important elements enabling us to explore and describe mechanistic ideas in a more rigorous mathematical framework.

We strive to publish manuscripts efficiently. To do so requires carefully prepared papers, timely and critical reviewing, as well as an appropriate response by the authors. Ultimately, it is the authors who determine the quality of the published papers. Editors only help authors to improve the clarity and strength of their scientific conclusions. As we broaden the reaches of catalysis to lands with diverse languages, we will strengthen processes that help authors with their technical English usage and grammar. These services will be offered for those articles that have passed the scientific reviewing process. Publishing scientific insight has also become dependent on the timeliness and the visibility of the reports. We will explore new ways to enhance the information exchange in catalysis and you will see some marked changes during the next year.

We view publishing scientific papers as a team approach. Together with you as authors and reviewers, we will succeed. We, the editors are looking forward to working with all of you.

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