

Annual Reviews in Fluorescence 2003

The early 1990's saw the beginning of a rapid growth phase for fluorescence spectroscopy. Instrumentation became more capable and user friendly, and fluorophore chemistry more versatile. The power of fluorescence spectroscopy would soon become a major tool for the forthcoming revolutions in structural biology and biotechnology.

During the past 13 years fluorescence has been significantly transformed from a methodology practiced in a few specialized laboratories, to one widely practiced in many laboratories encompassing a vast spectrum of scientific disciplines, such as gene expression, flow cytometry and diagnostics, to name but just a very few. Joseph R. Lakowicz foresaw many of these exciting changes in 1991, and responded by founding the *Journal of Fluorescence*. Since that time the Journal of Fluorescence has substantially grown and is now the dominant repository for peer reviewed original fluorescence research articles in the world. In addition, the number of workers employing fluorescence methodology has also substantially grown. Subsequently the new *Who's Who in Fluorescence*

Annual Volume, launched last year, now connects 350 workers from no fewer than 35 countries, disseminating both specialty and contact details.

Continuing to respond to the ever changing face of fluorescence we are pleased to announce the launch of the new *Annual Reviews in Fluorescence*. This new hard bound volume addresses the requirement for detailed fluorescence review articles, both reflecting and archiving the yearly progress in fluorescence, directly complimenting the Journal of Fluorescence. In this first volume we have invited notable scientists from around the world to progress their work in fluorescence with applications including Molecular Thermometers, Saccharide Sensors, Semiconductor Quantum Dot Nanoassemblies and the application of luminescence to Information Processing, to name a few. We hope you find this volume a useful resource and we look forward to receiving any suggestions you may have in the future.

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