Alzheimer's Disease Special Thematic Issue: Call for Papers

It is well-known that Alzheimer's disease, the most common form of dementia in the elderly, is a devastating disease and a major burden on society and caregivers.[1] Although described as early as 1906 by Alois Alzheimer, the causes and disease mechanisms are not completely understood, and advances in diagnosis and treatment are urgently needed. Over 5 million Americans over the age of 65 are suffering from the disease, and it is believed that by 2050 over 15 million Americans and over 115 million people worldwide will be living with the disease. With about 15 million unpaid caregivers and at a cost of 183 billion dollars per year in 2011, it is a major health care problem in the U.S. In recognition of the severity of the situation, the Obama administration recently declared that "reducing the burden of Alzheimer's disease on patients and their families is an urgent national priority" and announced increased funding for Alzheimer's research and caregiver support. It is in this spirit of urgency that *ACS Chemical Neuroscience*, *ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters*, and *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry* decided to focus on Alzheimer's disease in their first joint thematic issues in an effort to promote and accelerate Alzheimer's disease medicinal chemistry research.

ACS Chemical Neuroscience, *ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters*, and *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry* will each publish a thematic issue on Alzheimer's disease in November 2012, which is Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month. We are inviting contributions that are within the scope of each journal and welcome contributions in chemical biology, diagnosis, imaging, animal models, pathology, computational methods, new targets, prevention, and treatment of Alzheimer's disease. The simultaneous publication of a series of communications, articles, and reviews in the three journals should provide an excellent forum for researchers to share their most important recent findings and offer exceptional exposure of the published articles to the scientific community. We hope that the special issues will advance knowledge and stimulate new collaborations and new research directions.

For the *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry* special issue, we have invited Dr. Michael Wolfe from Harvard University, MA, to be the Guest Editor. Dr. Wolfe's laboratory primarily studies the chemistry and biology of γ-secretase and develops small-molecule inhibitors of γ-secretase as tools and potential therapeutics for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease. As Guest Editor, Dr. Wolfe will take the lead in manuscript invitations and review process right through to publication of the issue.

We encourage you to submit your manuscripts at https://acs.manuscriptcentral.com/acs by July 6, 2012. Accepted articles for the thematic issues can be published right away as JAMs and/or as ASAPs but will be published together in the November Special Issue. In addition, articles will appear on a special online landing page dedicated to Alzheimer's disease. For more information, please visit http://pubs.acs.org/page/vi/2012/alzheimer.html.

Gunda I. Georg, Editor
Shaomeng Wang, Editor

REFERENCES

(1) 2011 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures. http://www.alz.org/downloads/Facts_Figures_2011.pdf.