



Editorial

The objective of the *Journal of Molecular Catalysis: A* is to serve the scientific community by reporting novel findings and progress in the atomic and molecular understanding of catalytic activation and reaction mechanisms by metal complexes, and heterogeneous and biochemical catalysts.

Following the 10th International Symposium on Homogeneous Catalysis which was held in Princeton, New Jersey, on August 11–16, 1996, a passionate debate arose about the role and representativity of the International Advisory Board of the International Symposium on Homogeneous Catalysis.

We received a request to publish in the journal the views of one participant to the above meeting, Prof. Boy Cornils of Hoechst AG. An Editor in Chief always endeavors to avoid

polemics, but the role of a scientific journal is also to relay in the scientific community general, even if controversial, views which may help promoting and improving a field of science. We have therefore agreed to publish hereafter the letter of Prof. Boy Cornils together with the reply of Prof. Brian James.

In doing so, we are only offering the pages of the journal as a forum to the scientific community, to voice and hear opinions about activities in the field of molecular catalysis. These letters are published under the sole and entire responsibilities of their authors and do not, in any way, reflect a position of the Editors and Publisher of the *Journal of Molecular Catalysis: A*.

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