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Editorial

Changes for Volume 65

Beginning with volume 65, Dr. Francis J. Schmitz of the University of Oklahoma will be replaced by Dr. William H. Gerwick, of Oregon State University, as Associate Editor of the journal with special responsibility for handling papers on organisms of marine and aquatic origin. Dr. Schmitz has done an outstanding job for the *Journal of Natural Products* as Associate Editor since January 1999, and we are extremely grateful to him for the considerable investment in time he has made on behalf of the journal in the intervening period.

This year, the first of the two new cover illustrations (January–June 2002) will feature the coumarin (+)-calanolide A, a new nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase human-immunodeficiency virus type-1 (HIV-1) inhibitor that was discovered by Dr. Michael R. Boyd and colleagues at the Laboratory of Drug Discovery Research and Development at the National Cancer Institute–Frederick in Maryland (Kashman et al. *J. Med. Chem.* **1992**, *35*, 2735–2743). The structure of calanolide A is overlaid on the organism of its initial origin, *Calophyllum lanigerum* var. *austrocoriaceum*, which was collected in Sarawak, Malaysia, on behalf of the U.S. National Cancer Institute by Dr. Djaja Doel Soejarto, of the University of Illinois at Chicago. Dr. Soejarto has since played a pivotal role in the development of calanolide A as a potential anti-HIV/AIDS agent, since he identified this compound in a second *Calophyllum* species from Malaysia, for which the latex can be harvested in a sustainable manner. A useful review containing a summary of the biological activity of calanolide A and progress being made in current clinical trials conducted by Sarawak Medichem Research Inc. was published recently in this journal by Dr. Stringer S. Yang and colleagues (*J. Nat. Prod.* **2001**, *64*, 265–277). The cover illustration in the July–December 2002 issues of the journal will feature spongistatin 1, the prototype member of a new class of macrocyclic lactone anticancer agents currently under development. This compound, which acts as a potent antimicrotubule agent in mammalian cells, was obtained from the marine sponge *Hyrtios erecta*, in the laboratory of Dr. George R. Pettit, of Arizona State University. Some background information on spongistatin 1 and its naturally occurring derivatives was presented in an earlier review by Dr. Pettit (*J. Nat. Prod.* **1996**, *59*, 812–821).

Increasingly, authors are submitting manuscripts describing structures of naturally occurring compounds with novel carbon skeletons that are supported by single-crystal X-ray crystallography. However, to expedite the publication of papers containing this type of information, authors are reminded to provide the reviewer's material specified in the Scope and Editorial Policy pages of this issue of the journal, at the time of the initial submission of their manuscript.

A. Douglas Kinghorn

Editor-in-Chief

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