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Editorial

The start of a new century and the dawn of a new millennium are times for reflection and prognostication. Science in general, and chemistry in particular, has made advances unimaginable by most scientists at the turn of the last century. In organic chemistry, our understanding of stereochemistry, reaction mechanisms, synthetic techniques, natural products isolation and synthesis, materials developments, organometallic species, the roles of organic molecules in living cells, medicinal developments, and theoretical and computational advances, etc. have all reached new heights. For over sixty years, and especially during the last half century, *The Journal of Organic Chemistry* (*JOC*) has taken the lead in presenting these advances to the organic community worldwide.

Organic chemistry in all its aspects is strong and vibrant and is poised for yet unimagined developments and advances in the new century. It is the goal of *JOC*, in concert with our new sister ACS publication, *Organic Letters*, to keep abreast of these exciting advances and thereby provide the international chemical community state-of-the-art venues for the publication and dissemination of important research in all areas of organic chemistry. Results of special timeliness and urgency will appear in *Organic Letters* as letters; full articles and notes will appear in *JOC*.

Starting with this issue, *JOC* offers authors the opportunity to showcase their best contributions in the field on our cover. Authors are encouraged to provide the Editor with imaginative artwork that creatively captures the essence of their cutting edge research for consideration as a cover. There is no charge to authors for cover

art, and the final responsibility for the selection rests with the Editor-in-Chief.

Future issues will include *invited*, topical minireviews, as well as *invited* contributions from all the recipients of the annual national ACS awards in the field of organic chemistry. Moreover, selected, especially timely contributions will receive expedited processing and publication.

In the future, *JOC* will accept not only traditional hard copy manuscripts but also submissions via the Web process, as pioneered by *Organic Letters*. The Publications Division is presently working on an electronic template suitable for *JOC* to enable authors to easily submit manuscripts, analogous to *Organic Letters*. Peer review of manuscripts and delivery of proofs will also be expedited by Web and other modern technologies. Starting in 2000, the use of color, when warranted, will be available at no charge to the authors.

Finally, I would like to thank my predecessor, Professor Clayton H. Heathcock, for making *JOC* the premier medium for the publication of organic chemical research. Likewise, I would like to express my gratitude to the entire staff of the Publications Division, as well as the *JOC* production team in Columbus, OH, for their dedication and commitment to keeping *JOC* the best it can be. My Senior, Associate, and Managing Editors and I, along with the Publications Division staff, are committed to offering all scientists in the field of every area of organic chemistry the best quality service we can, in the most expeditious way afforded by rapidly advancing contemporary technology, for the publication of their research results.

Peter J. Stang, Editor-in-Chief

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