

Introduction

The special issues produced to mark the appearance of Volumes 100 and 200 of this journal, in 1975 and 1980, respectively, were so well received that the Editorial Board had no hesitation in recommending that a similar issue should be brought out for Volume 300. Thus members of the Board and contributors to Volumes 100 and 200 not on the Board were asked to nominate about 20 organometallic chemists (excluding contributors to Volumes 100 and 200) to be invited to submit articles; those making nominations were also encouraged to indicate the 'top ten' in their lists, in order of merit if they wished, and were asked to base their choices on research distinction, keeping in mind the full range of elements relevant to the journal and taking account of organometallic chemists of all nationalities. In the event analysis of the large number of sets of nominations this time produced a clear list of those to be invited, without the need to use the 'top ten' category to decide ties. The response to invitations was again excellent, and the present volume is the result.

Contributors were asked to review some aspects of their own work in any form they wished and, as for Volumes 100 and 200, some chose to describe part of their current work and others to outline the development of their research over the years, with emphasis on personal aspects. There can be little doubt that, like the earlier celebration volumes, this one will be of interest to students as well as to established organometallic chemists. Volumes 100, 200, and 300 taken together should also be of much interest in the future as an indication of which chemists were regarded by their peers as having made the most important contributions to organometallic chemistry in the past thirty years or so, during which the subject has undergone such great development.

The Regional Editors and Publishers acknowledge the help of all those who submitted lists of nominations, and are most grateful to the authors who accepted the invitations to contribute. They also thank organometallic chemists for their continuing support of the Journal of Organometallic Chemistry, as readers, referees, and authors.

*School of Chemistry and Molecular Sciences,
University of Sussex, Brighton BN1 9QJ (Great Britain)*

COLIN EABORN