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Foreword

Foreword to special issue on 6th JOM symposium on "New Organometallic Compounds for Applications in Homogeneous Catalysis"

The 6th JOM symposium on Frontiers in Organometallic Chemistry was held in Honolulu, Hawaii at the 2005 Pacifichem conference. The theme of this symposium was New Organometallic Compounds for Applications in Homogeneous Catalysis. A number of distinguished leaders in this field were invited to give presentations including Professor Robert H. Gubbs, 2005 Nobel Laureate. A number of contributed presentations were also accepted for presentation in the form of oral and poster presentations. All participants were invited submit their results in a written form for publication in this special issue of the Journal of Organometallic Chemistry. Homogeneous catalysis has been one of the great success stories that has emerged from research in organometallic chemistry. Homogeneous hydroformylation catalysts, now in widespread industrial use, are used to prepare over a million tons of "oxo" products/year worldwide. Organopalladium catalysts are widely used in organic synthesis. Metallocene olefin polymerization catalysts and metallocarbene ring-opening metathesis polymerization (ROMP) catalysts with great efficiencies are now revolutionizing the polymer industry and are creating much stronger materials. Asymmetric homogeneous hydrogenation catalysts are providing new, enantiomerically-pure drugs to treat a variety of diseases and genetic disorders. It is hoped that the results contained herein will promote a greater awareness of this important field and will stimulate new directions of future research.

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