

EDITORIAL

Editorial for January 2009

Let me extend my best wishes to *The Journal of Physical Chemistry (JPC)* authors and reviewers for 2009. 2008 was a great year for the *JPC* family of journals with continued growth in article submissions in all sections. I am especially pleased in the rapid rise of *JPC C*, which has just completed its second year of publication.

Toward the end of 2008, a completely redesigned Web site was introduced for all of ACS Publications (<http://pubs.acs.org>), including *JPC*. The ACS has achieved its goal of launching a new online hosting and delivery system that provides a more functional presentation for *JPC*. Although the primary information presented is largely the same, the updated platform provides an array of exciting new features that will grow and evolve with time. ACS Publications also transitioned to an XML-based production environment, which adds XML markup to the article content. Using XML markup allows *JPC* content to be presented with dynamic and emerging features such as those available in the new Web platform. These technology transitions expand our opportunities to improve the journal, and I encourage you to contact my office with any comments or suggestions you may have.

Among the first of these features is making Table of Contents graphics (TOC graphics) an option for all Articles in the Web version of the journal. Previously, TOC graphics were reserved only for Letters, but the growing interest among our authors to publish them with Articles prompted us to make this option available in 2009. In 2010, we will make TOC Graphics mandatory for all *JPC* Articles.

The transition to the ACS Paragon Plus Environment occurred in late 2007, and a number of enhancements were made throughout 2008. Further improvements are scheduled for 2009. The most significant difficulty with the transition for *JPC* authors concerned the submission of LaTeX manuscripts, which the first versions did not handle optimally. We now have added a number of enhancements to the submission process, some of which are truly easy (meaning that I can do it!). If, as an author, you notice additional problems, please contact my office.

An updated "Notice to Authors" is now available at the ACS web site (pubs.acs.org). This is largely the same as in the past; however, I have attempted to clarify journal policy issues on a number of matters, particularly with respect to manuscripts that cite unpublished work. In addition, we have recently implemented software changes that notify all coauthors when a manuscript is

submitted. This change means it is imperative that authors provide accurate e-mail addresses for coauthors. Note that ACS Paragon Plus will soon change to a system where new accounts are not automatically created for coauthors during manuscript submission.

2008 marked the Centennial of the Physical Division of the American Chemical Society, and we participated in several activities associated with this, including a reception (sponsored by ACS Publications) at the ACS National Meeting in Philadelphia. Of particular importance to *JPC* was the development of a special series of Feature Articles denoted "Centennial Feature Articles" that will be completed in early 2009. Once published, you will notice a new catalog on the journal's web sites that will include the Centennial Feature Articles for all three parts of the journal.

Four new editorial offices were added during 2008: Kankan Bhattacharya, Oleg Prezhdo, Randy Snurr, and Eric Weitz. These new editorial offices are all fully operational, nicely complementing the other editorial offices (many of which have been in operation for over a decade). Prashant Kamat was promoted to the position of Executive Editor, thus reflecting expanded editorial duties. Managing Editor Donna Minton is now in her second year on the job and has proven crucial to a number of journal functions. You will probably work with Donna if you submit Cover Art, Feature or Review Articles, or manuscripts for Special Issues; have copyright concerns; or are involved in promoting the journal. In addition, Donna has been involved in journal activities for several scientific meetings, and she has been doing a terrific job with communicating the activities of the journal to authors around the world.

All of the *JPC* editorial offices have superbly maintained efficiency and excellence during this time involving many changes to manuscript processing, and I would like to thank them for all of their efforts. The excellent reputation of *JPC* is built on their hard work and dedication to editing the many manuscripts that are considered for publication by *JPC*.

A new year always presents unique challenges and changes. Regardless of what arises, we are committed to provide authors and reviewers with the best publication experience and to maintain the preeminent position that *JPC* enjoys. We look forward to working with you in 2009!

George C. Schatz

Editor