

EDITORIAL

Solid state chemistry is playing an increasingly important role in the broader context of inorganic chemistry and materials chemistry and in areas such as hierarchical materials, polyatomic systems, and self-assembly. While many of the present research activities now transcend the traditional boundaries of solid state chemistry as developed over the past 60 years, the research still falls within the broad sequence of synthesis—structure—characterization—function. Molecular and solid state chemists have increasingly learned to adopt each other's research strategies to reach the same goal: the exploitation of structure/properties relationships. As a result, the traditional boundaries have become considerably blurred, and the process of cross-fertilization can be expected to grow further in the near future.

The *Journal of Solid State Chemistry* has had a long-standing tradition of publishing articles of high quality in the traditional areas of the field. However, in the context of recent developments, it is important that the scope of the *Journal* be broadened to ensure that the new type of research is more adequately represented. Toward this end, we wish to announce that Mercouri G. Kanatzidis has joined Jurgen M. Honig as Editor, with primary responsibility in the areas that can be broadly characterized as *chimie douce*. We wish to note emphatically that our intention is to broaden, not shift, the focus of the *Journal*. Beyond the current areas of concentration, expanded coverage will include, but not be limited to, nanostructured materials, thin films, micro- and mesoporous materials, intercalation chemistry, inclusion compounds, nanocomposites, open framework materials, and organic solids. Several individuals with experience in these areas are being added to the Editorial Board of the *Journal* to provide broader representation of the newly embraced subfields.

The Editors will continue to attempt to ensure prompt handling of all manuscripts and rapid publication of papers after acceptance. There will also be a change in the format of the table of contents in the print version of the *Journal* to include the publication of graphics next to the title. This should assist readers in spotting articles of interest to them. Further details will be provided in the Information for Authors section in a forthcoming issue.

The recently revised cover now includes a photographic element that will change from time to time. Thus, the Editors invite contributors to submit such photographs for possible inclusion on the cover. We continue to solicit Letters to the Editor that report results of unusual interest and urgency. Such papers will be handled expeditiously as outlined in the Information for Authors.

Above all, we encourage all workers in the expanded area of coverage of the *Journal* to submit their research so that the *Journal of Solid State Chemistry* will properly reflect the interests of all practitioners of the field. We hope, thereby, to keep the *Journal* current with the subject area of solid state chemistry as a continuously changing and dynamic discipline.

Jurgen M. Honig
Mercouri G. Kanatzidis
Editors