

## Editorial

Nineteen hundred and ninety-seven was a landmark year for both the American Chemical Society and the *Journal of Chemical & Engineering Data*. All the ACS journals became available on the World Wide Web. All articles published since January 1996 can now be accessed and downloaded as both HTML and PDF versions, which have the exact contents of the printed version. For active users of the *Journal of Chemical & Engineering Data*, the implications of these advances are profound. All the experimental data in text and tables will be accessible in ASCII format and can be readily imported into spreadsheets for further processing and analysis.

From January 1, 1998, the time for publication will be expedited. Documents accepted for publication will be posted in the World Wide Web edition of the journal as soon as they are ready for publication, that is, when galley proofs are corrected and all authors concerns are resolved. This can occur anywhere from 2 to 11 weeks in advance of the cover date of the printed issue. The Web versions will have the exact contents of the later printed version. The actual date on which the document is posted on the Web will be recorded and will be regarded as the publication date.

The number of articles published in 1997 was less than that in 1996. This reduction resulted from the rejection of manuscripts reporting only densities of mixtures of organic compounds at temperatures close to room temperature. In addition, at my request, many authors consolidated their work into more substantial papers. However, there are still manuscripts being submitted that can be classified as not having substantial content. There is still too much journal space taken up with repetitive descriptions of both experimental technique and analytical methods by authors publishing short papers on similar systems using identical methods. Many of these papers can be consolidated or published as a note.

On 18 July, 1997, Max McGlashan died. McGlashan, as Editor of the *Journal of Chemical Thermodynamics* and through his activities with IUPAC and ISO on symbols and terminology in physical chemistry, has had a major influence on the way in which thermophysical property data are documented and presented in the literature. The *Journal of Chemical & Engineering Data* has adopted the majority of the philosophies and recommendations he espoused. It was my privilege to have known and worked with Max over a period of 30 years. His passing is a loss to the scientific community.

Moving the Journal Office to the University of Canterbury, New Zealand, McGlashan's alma mater, went smoothly with minimal delay in the journal operation, thanks to the dedication and organization of the ACS and Editor's Office staff. The availability of modern communication methods also played a vital role in maintaining communications with the ACS, authors, and referees during this transition. This journal, in cooperation with the ACS, is dedicated to exploring the further use of modern communication methods to enhance and speed the publication process.

**Dr. Kenneth N. Marsh**, *Editor*

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