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Foreword

Because the bioactivity of enantiomers can differ greatly, the need to obtain enantio-pure chiral compounds is assuming increasing importance in the pharmaceutical, agrochemical and fragrance industries. Enantiomers are often difficult to separate; thus there has been much recent interest in developing procedures to synthesize chiral molecules enantioselectively. The development of catalysts to produce asymmetric induction or kinetic resolution in organic synthesis has been foremost in these efforts. Transition metal complexes have been shown to be among the most effective catalysts for these reactions. For these reasons, we decided to organize a special issue of the *Journal of Organometallic Chemistry* devoted to the topic 'New Directions in Catalytic Asymmetric Synthesis'. This issue contains a range of reviews and reports of original new results that have been received from a number of the world's leading researchers on this topic. We believe the readers will find this to be a most interesting issue.

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Jean-Pierre Genêt

DESCRIPTION OF COVER GRAPHIC

The cover page shows a structural diagram of the chiral complex $MoO_2((+)\text{-campy})_2$. Molybdenum(VI) and tungsten(VI) dioxo complexes with chiral 2′-pyridinyl alcoholate ligands exhibit substantial optical induction in enantioselective epoxidation reactions. The neutral N-donor ligand atoms of the pyridine ring are in a trans-position to the cis-dioxomolybdenum fragment resulting from the trans-directing effect of the oxo ligands. For further information, see the report by Hermann et al. in this issue.

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