

EDITORIAL

New Editor-in-Chief for *The Journal of Physical Chemistry A and B*

With this issue of *The Journal of Physical Chemistry A and B* I am taking over from Mostafa A. El-Sayed as Editor-in-Chief. Mostafa is retiring from this position after 24 extremely successful years in which the Journal has grown from 4,000 to over 30,000 pages, with 61,980 combined total citations in 2003. The Journal was split into the A and B parts in 1997, but it is still administered as a single journal, thus properly reflecting the breadth of the field of Physical Chemistry. I am pleased that all of the Senior Editors will continue their service to the community for the Journal, and that Ms. Davine Henderson will continue as Journal Manager. In addition, Dr. Jan Goranson will continue with the Journal, so the operations of the Journal are largely unchanged by this change of leadership. I thank the Advisory Board (partially new with this issue) for their help and advice with the Journal, and I especially thank the Reviewers and Authors for their help with making sure that the Journal publishes only the highest quality work.

The *Journal of Physical Chemistry* has been a great success story, so one of my goals as Editor-in-Chief is to continue this great tradition, including such features as the Feature Articles, Review Articles, and the Special Issues that were introduced by Mostafa. However, you will also notice a number of enhancements to the Journal that should make it more useful and provide better functionality.

One enhancement that is already in place concerns the Letters section of the Journal. During the past year, we have reorganized how Letters are handled such that the processing is much more efficient than it was in the past, with a redesigned reviewer page

for electronic submission of reviews. In addition, all Letters will display *The Journal of Physical Chemistry (A or B)* name on the top of the first page.

There will also be a number of enhancements to the visual appearance of the Journal and to the Web page (<http://pubs.acs.org/jpca>). Some of the artwork for the cover has been redesigned, and more changes are planned. A "JPC Facts" data sheet now appears on the Web and presents important information about the Journal concerning its impact in the field, usage statistics, and other data. Catalogs of Feature Articles and Special Issues will soon appear on the Web page, to supplement the existing Cover Art catalog in highlighting some of the special activities of the Journal. It is now possible to publish animations with a direct hypertext link in the Web issue (so-called "Web-enhanced objects"; see Preparation of Manuscripts in this issue). Also, the Web page now contains a friendlier link between the A and B Tables of Content.

This journal remains a community effort, so I would be happy to receive suggestions from Authors and Reviewers for enhancements. A significant goal of the Journal is to improve the quality of papers, so let me encourage Authors to submit their best work to JPC A and JPC B. The Senior Editors and I are committed to making JPC an even stronger journal, so I look forward to maintaining an active dialogue with the community.

George C. Schatz

Editor-in-Chief