

EDITORIAL

Editorial for January 2008

As we begin the New Year, I want to share with you a number of accomplishments and activities that have taken place this past year with the Journal and some we are looking forward to in 2008.

The Journal of Physical Chemistry C was launched in 2007, and as a result, there were significant rearrangements to the content of all parts of the Journal. The restructuring has been a tremendous success, with sizable growth in total manuscripts published and roughly an equal distribution of manuscripts among the three parts of the Journal. I sincerely appreciate the efforts of all of the Authors and Reviewers in making this change work so well. Only minor modifications to the Journal parts and sections have been made for 2008, largely due to confusion about where to put papers concerned with hard condensed matter. The term "Hard Matter" has now been added both to the overall title of Part C (Nanomaterials, Interfaces, Hard Matter) and to Section C3 (Electron Transport, Optical and Electronic Devices, Hard Matter). In addition, the overall title of Part B now reads "Soft Condensed Matter and Biophysical Chemistry".

The Journal made its transition to Paragon Plus on October 1, 2007. This was a major adjustment that required Authors, Reviewers, and the Editorial offices to learn new software and processes. Currently, all of the Editorial offices are successfully working with Paragon Plus thanks to the hard work of my staff, the Editors, and the Editorial Assistants. I would like to thank all Authors and Reviewers for their time and effort in adjusting to the new system. As expected, there have been a few glitches, and I appreciate the patience of the Authors and Reviewers in dealing with manuscripts that encountered problems as a result of the transition. In addition, I have received much correspondence about features which were either not functioning properly or needed improvement. I have and will continue to work with the ACS Publications staff to deal with these suggestions. Please note that the updated *Notice to Authors* provides instructions for using Paragon Plus that are specific to JPC. I am looking forward to additional improvements to the Paragon Plus system to be implemented throughout 2008.

The new position of Managing Editor for the Journal was established in 2007, and Dr. Donna Garton Minton was selected for this job. Donna, who is a physical chemist, has quickly taken on important responsibilities for the Journal. She now manages Feature Articles, Review Articles, the Cover Art selection process, and a number of aspects of Special Issues. Donna also works with ACS on the content and appearance of the Journal Web pages, and she is actively involved in copyright and marketing issues related to the Journal. Thanks to Donna, we are upgrading some of the Cover Art processes, including the use of graphic artists at the ACS to improve artwork, so I encourage Authors to suggest Cover Art when submitting manuscripts.

In addition to the Managing Editor position, I am pleased to have added six new Senior Editors to the Journal in 2007. Theodore Goodson (University of Michigan), Sarah Larsen (University of Iowa), Adrian Roitberg (University of Florida), Xueming Yang (Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics), Arun Yethiraj (University of Wisconsin), and Francisco Zaera (University of California, Riverside) have set up fully functioning Editorial offices.

Finally, 2008 is the Centennial of the Physical Division of the American Chemistry Society. The Physical Division has always been closely aligned with *The Journal of Physical Chemistry*, so as part of the celebration, I am initiating a series of Centennial Feature Articles which will be published throughout 2008 in all three parts of the Journal. These articles, which are being authored by past and present officers of the Physical Division, Journal Senior Editors, as well as other scientists who have contributed significantly to Physical Division activities, will highlight the leading edge of research on a wide variety of topics. Toward the end of the year, a special catalog of Centennial Feature Articles will be placed on the Web page.

With the many changes in 2007, the Journal has seen an increase in the number of submissions and a rise in Impact Factor for Parts A and B. We anticipate even more success in 2008 and look forward to continuing to publish significant research results in Physical Chemistry.

George C. Schatz

Editor-in-Chief