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Guest Editorial Note

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GUEST EDITORIAL NOTE

It was a pleasure for me to assume the guest editorship of this first special issue of *Sulfur Reports*. I chose to focus on chiral *N*-substituted sulfur compounds because unlike their oxygen counterparts (sulfoxides and sulfones) whose chemistry has been well developed there has recently evolved a rapidly increasing interest in these compounds for diastereoselective and asymmetric synthesis. This issue presents state-of-the-art accounts of the synthesis, structure, and reactions of the three most popular chiral *N*-substituted sulfur compounds, namely *N*-alkylidenesulfinamides (contribution by Duy H. Hua, Kansas State University, USA), sulfimides *alias* sulfilimines (contribution by Paul C. Taylor, University of Warwick, UK), and sulfoximines (contribution by Stephen G. Pyne, University of Wollongong, Australia).

A perusal of the three reviews makes it abundantly clear that these *N*-substituted sulfur compounds are versatile reagents for diastereoselective and asymmetric synthesis and that they will continue to find many synthetic applications as both nucleophilic and electrophilic reagents. Further work is required to help one to understand the factors which determine the diastereoselection and the stereochemical outcomes of such reactions. These studies will result in enhanced product diastereo- and enantioselectivities and make these reagents even more attractive to the wider synthetic chemistry community. Moreover, the use of chiral sulfoximines and sulfimides as ligands in catalytic asymmetric synthesis is an area of recent development which may have additional useful applications.

It is hoped that this special issue will seduce even more chemists to enter this fascinating area of chemical endeavor.

Stephen G. Pyne
Guest Editor

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