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Editorial

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Editorial

Dear colleagues, some of you may have already noticed that I have recently taken over editorship from Alex Seed. I hope you join me in thanking Alex for all his work over the last four years to serve the international liquid crystal community with a newsletter and society publication.

Being an online publication for some time now, I anticipate making *Liquid Crystals Today* a bit more responsive, giving timely information to the members of the International Liquid Crystal Society (ILCS). I have had very constructive talks with our publisher Taylor & Francis, and we hope to update different sections of the journal at varying frequency. For a start it is anticipated to have a full research article or review every three to six months. New conference reports and book reviews will be made available every three months, and industrial and application news will be summarised on a similar timescale. Conference announcements and, in particular, job advertisements (post-doctorate and more senior positions) will be disseminated as soon as possible, hopefully even more frequently than monthly. I also welcome contributions concerning widening participation and public engagement events, which will be published as we go along.

I am very pleased that Isa Nishiyama is joining me as Associate Editor. Together, we hope to be able to provide you with a good balance of contributions from Physics and Chemistry, academia and industry, West and East.

In the end, it is clear that the editors can only do so much. *Liquid Crystals Today* can only be as good as you, the members of the ILCS, make it. You have to provide us with the items to publish. As such, I appeal to every member of the ILCS, and especially the regional representatives, to send me a large variety of contributions.

- (1) Please submit research papers, reviews or article proposals (all of which will be peer reviewed), or suggest topics and names of colleagues who you

think would be willing to contribute to *Liquid Crystals Today* so that I can contact them.

- (2) If you organise a relevant international or national conference or workshop, let me know the details to pass them on to the community.
- (3) Please provide me with conference and workshop reports, not only of international but also of national meetings (include photographs to make it lively and capture the spirit).
- (4) Have you been given a significant prize or award? Let me know about it, send the award picture and we will spread the news.
- (5) If you have any suggestions for subject relevant books to be reviewed, please let me have the details and I will arrange a review.
- (6) Inform me if your company makes a groundbreaking new liquid crystal based discovery or product, and we will tell the world.
- (7) Are you organising widening participation or public engagement events largely based on liquid crystals? If so, why not summarise what you are doing (with some nice photographs) to share with the community. Maybe this will encourage others to do the same.
- (8) If you are lucky enough to be able to advertise research or academic positions (post-doctorate and more senior), we will be happy to post them, hopefully within a month. That way you'll maximise your visibility in the liquid crystals community for free. Just let me know the details with job particulars and contacts for further information and applications.

Again, the more information you provide me with, the more dynamic *Liquid Crystals Today* can be for the benefit of all members of the ILCS.

Let us make our society journal as vibrant, diverse and interdisciplinary as our research and society already is.

I hope to hear from you soon.

Ingo Dierking