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Editorial

During the Editorial Advisory Board meetings last year, we came up with the idea of having certain issues of *Organic Process Research & Development* devoted to particular topics or themes. This issue contains the first of these themes—oligonucleotide chemistry and the process Research and Development issues which are relevant to these interesting molecules. The issue contains standard papers as well as those on oligonucleotide chemistry, the latter being in a section at the end of the journal, beginning with introductory remarks written by the guest editor, Yogesh Sanghvi, of Isis Pharmaceuticals in Carlsbad, CA, U.S.A., who was the instigator and coordinator of this section. I must thank Yogesh for his efforts in bringing this issue to fruition, since his contacts in the oligonucleotide field have proved invaluable in getting the papers submitted and refereed in a timely manner. Any papers which did not meet the very tight deadlines for this issue will, of course, appear in later issues of the journal.

I would appreciate your feedback on this concept of themed issues. We are already well underway with the second themed issue of 2000, namely Crystallisation and Polymorphism, timed to coincide with an important conference on that subject in the UK in October 2000. Assuming that feedback is positive, we will have at least two themed issues in 2001. One of these will probably be on continuous processes, but suggestions for the second are welcome.

Since I attended a biocatalysis course and conference last week in Amsterdam, this topic seemed an appropriate theme for a 2001 issue. What I need is a volunteer to act as guest editor to develop this idea and bring it to fruition. The volunteer needs to have expertise in the area of biocatalysis, a wide range of contacts in the industry, and a strong commitment to the aims of the journal. The guest editor would probably be co-opted on to the Editorial Advisory Board which meets twice a year. Let me know as soon as possible if you are interested in this challenge.

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