

Organic Process Research & Development

Organic Process Research & Development 2004, 8, 137

Editorial

Special Sections for Future Issues: Call for Guest Editors

In 2003, *Organic Process Research & Development* (OPRD) published three issues with special sections, and we intend to continue with three issues per year, the last issue of each year containing the special safety section. The success of these sections depends very much on the dedication of the guest editor(s), and we have been fortunate to have some hard-working scientists volunteer for the job in recent years. Sometimes the guest editor is already involved with OPRD as an editorial advisory board (EAB) member, but it is not necessary for a guest editor to be on the EAB.

The duties of the guest editor are mainly in the initial stages of the special section, namely to make a list of potential authors and then to contact and persuade them to write articles. Once the articles are submitted to the journal, the reviewing and editing is carried out in the normal way (or slightly accelerated since there is a publication deadline to aim for) and does not involve the guest editor. The guest editor will, however, usually assist in reviewing one or two papers or in suggesting suitable reviewers with the appropriate expertise in the special topic. He/She may also write a guest editorial.

The special sections for 2004 and 2005 issues have almost been fixed, and we are now planning for 2006. I know this seems a long way off, but it is important to get the discussion process started well ahead of time. At a recent editorial board meeting, the small number of papers from the “non-pharmaceutical” industry was mentioned, and it was suggested that one way to circumvent this was to have a special section focussed on a specific industrial sector such as:

- (a) flavours and fragrances
- (b) colour chemicals (chemicals for electronics/liquid crystals, etc.)

- (c) agrochemicals
- (d) nutraceuticals
- (e) generics (including pharmaceuticals, of course)

The purpose of this editorial is therefore to ask for volunteers to be a guest editor for any of these sectors. This is an opportunity to enhance the prestige of your own industrial sector as well as that of yourself. If there are other sectors which I have omitted, then I am happy to receive additional suggestions.

Another suggestion was for scale-up of difficult chemistries (e.g., ozonolysis, azide chemistry, high-pressure reactions, hydride reductions, nitration, carbonylation, etc.). Would anyone like to volunteer to guest edit a special section on this topic? This would make a really interesting special section if we could persuade companies to write up their work with sufficient detail to review the paper and to repeat the experiments without divulging so much know-how that their commercial colleagues (or patent lawyers) object to the publication.

Most of the ideas for special sections come from members of our EAB, who are an enthusiastic bunch of chemists and engineers. EAB meetings are lively, with lots of ideas being generated (and therefore are sometimes difficult to chair!). It seems appropriate, therefore, to thank all EAB members for their contributions to the success of the journal, for giving up their time to attend meetings, and particularly for their work outside the meetings on behalf of OPRD.

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