

Organic Process Research & Development

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Editorial

Hard Copy Submissions to OPRD To Be Phased Out

When we initially requested papers to be submitted for the very first issue of *Org. Process Res. Dev.* (OPRD) in the mid 1990s, all of the papers were submitted in hard copy format. And what a pain in the neck it was for my assistants to photocopy the paper (if four copies weren't submitted), and to mail out copies to referees, along with all the subsequent correspondence and filing. How times have changed! With the advent of electronic submission in the early years of the journal, most authors chose to submit their papers electronically, thus speeding up the refereeing/review process, as well as improving the efficiency of operations in editorial offices.

In December 2006, OPRD changes over from the existing ACS Paragon to the new Paragon Plus¹ Environment system—a system much improved for both authors and reviewers—and this will coincide with OPRD accepting only electronically submitted manuscripts. In the future hard copies will not be accepted, and for any hard copies received after December 2006, the senior author will be asked to resubmit the paper in electronic format. I hope this will not cause any inconvenience. However, in the last year we only had 10 paper submissions.

Readers will note that there are no Patent Highlights this issue. This is due to a very serious family illness preventing Keith Turner from submitting his contribution. These highlights will appear in the next issue.

Nevertheless, readers will also notice an increase in the total number of pages published this year, compared to those published in 2005, reflecting the increasing interest in process R&D issues. Long may it continue!

In this issue, as has become standard for the last issue of each year, we include a Safety of Chemical Processes special feature which begins with a review of some of the safety literature. For the past 3 years this review and the coordination of the Safety of Chemical Processes special section have been carried out by Paul Vogt and Dave am Ende. Owing to a change in Dave's responsibilities at Pfizer, where he is focusing more on reaction engineering and technology application than on process safety, Dave has decided to hand over his duties; we are grateful that Gerald Weisenburger (also of Pfizer) has kindly volunteered his services. We welcome him onto the team! Dave has helped Jerry and Paul with the review this time around and has also volunteered to help with future special issues on chemical and engineering technology applications, if we decide to go down that track. I take this opportunity to thank Dave for all his hard work for OPRD over the past years, and I trust he will continue to be of service in other ways.

Trevor Laird
Editor

¹ For more detailed information on Paragon Plus Environment, see http://pubs.acs.org/paragonplus/auth_rev/index.html.

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