

Special Sections of Issues of OPR&D

For the past 10 years, the editors of *Organic Process Research & Development* (OPR&D) have, with the help of members of the Editorial Advisory Board and sometimes scientists not officially involved with the journal, planned special sections of issues on a wide variety of topics which we think are of interest to process chemists and engineers. Some of the topics have delved into rather narrow areas such as oligonucleotide chemistry or potential genotoxic impurities, and others have encompassed wider topics such as asymmetric synthesis on large scale.

These special themed sections are important since they allow authors, often from disciplines other than organic chemistry or chemical engineering who would not normally write for OPR&D, to submit articles of interest to our readership. For example, the special sections on polymorphism and crystallisation have provided a forum for discussions of key aspects relating to manufacture of particular crystal forms. This necessarily means that the special sections widen the scope of science and technology covered by the journal—a good thing in my view.

Later this year we will have special sections on Sustainable Process Chemistry (issue 4), Asymmetric Synthesis on Large Scale (issue 5), and Safety of Chemical Processes (issue 6). There will also be a special section devoted to INTENANT, a European industry-academic project related to chiral technologies, in the last issue of 2011. The sections for 2012 are already being planned, and we hope to have a section on continuous processing in late 2012. We have already received many offers of papers for this special section topic, but we would like more. This is a hot topic at present, and I invite all interested in the science and technology of continuous processing (including microreactor chemistry, for example) to contribute. The deadline for receipt of submissions is the end of November, 2011.

In addition we are planning a section based on bioconjugates and related chemistry. We will shortly be sending out invitations to potential authors to contribute to this section concerning a topic not previously covered in OPR&D. Of course, we also want to focus on the process-related issues and scale-up problems. Anyone working in this relatively new, but expanding field is invited to submit articles for this section. In the first instance, please contact the editor with an outline of the proposed article to see if it is likely to be suitable for this special topic.

A third special section in 2012 will be on a topic related to crystallisation and polymorphism, with particular emphasis on other unit operations downstream from crystallisation, such as filtration, drying, and particle size reduction. The exact title has yet to be chosen. However, all scientists working in these fields are invited to submit articles. Previous special sections on crystallisation, polymorphism, and related material have been well-received in the community and highly cited. The multidisciplinary nature of these topics has widened readership of the journal and has helped increase the impact factor.

Finally, may I remind readers of our annual special section on Process Safety which is published in the last issue of each year. There is still time to contribute to the 2011 section as well as to that in 2012.

The time to start writing is now!!!

Trevor Laird

Published: April 20, 2011