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## Supramolecular Chemistry

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### *Editorial*

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## Editorial

With the publication of this issue *Supramolecular Chemistry* begins its 16th year of existence. It also starts its third full year under the present editorial team and its third year under the Taylor & Francis imprint. Thus, even as we celebrate past achievements, it is important to keep in mind that the journal in its present form is still extremely “young” and that the process of renovation and amelioration is far from complete. Over the last year, we have succeeded in greatly decreasing our time from submission to publication and have seen the impact factor for the journal rise to 1.8. We have seen the introduction of full color in the electronic version of the journal and the implementation of electronic publication. This latter debut has allowed articles to appear on the web ([www.supramolecularchemistry.info](http://www.supramolecularchemistry.info)), with an official date of publication that is sometimes far in advance of the actual journal printing date. Authors have played their part in speeding up the publication process by submitting electronic copies of manuscripts and supplementary information. As part of our moves into the electronic age, we have made it easier for non-subscribers to access the abstracts (for free) and have put in place a tracking system that allows us to see which abstracts attract the greatest number of hits. The record so far is well over 400 [for Lance Twyman’s and Peter Gittins’ review on dendrimers that appeared in issue 15(1)]. However, hit numbers in the 50–100 range are not uncommon. These tangible metrics provide a codified way of communicating what we as editors appreciate intuitively, namely that some splendid science has appeared in *Supramolecular Chemistry* over the past few years. This would not have happened without you, the community, and we want to thank each and every one of you for your continued interest, help, and support.

Among those whom we’d like to single out for special thanks are, naturally, our authors and referees. Without authors there are no papers and without referees these papers would be of little lasting value. The authors are easy to recognize and thank. They also receive positive feedback (we hope!) when their papers get read, cited, and used

as spring-boards for the generation of yet new ideas. By contrast, the reviewers, as a clear consequence of their anonymity, may not be saluted publicly. Thus, it is hard to thank them in the way that they deserve. However, we appreciate that in some respects the referees are the heart and soul of this journal. Thus, please be assured that your hard work has been noted and that we are heartfelt in our appreciation.

As editors we promise to translate this appreciation into a real effort to avoid abuse. Unless a submission is judged to be of particular interest to your own immediate research goals, we will try hard not to ask you to do more than your share. However, for this approach to succeed, we all do have to do our part. So, if called on to look over a manuscript, please do everything in your power to get your critique back as quickly as possible, while providing a review that is courteous, critical, and fair. Such reviews will be helpful to us and helpful to the authors.

Special thanks are also due to those that have stepped forward to put together special issues in recent years. During the past year, *Supramolecular Chemistry* put out two thematic issues and both were very well received. The first, guest edited by Roberto Cao, highlights supramolecular chemistry in Cuba, while providing a written record of the 1st Santa María Workshop on Chemistry that was held in Santa María del Mar, Cuba, during the summer of 2002. The second thematic issue, guest-edited by Michael Hannon, had as its focus the supramolecular chemistry of younger researchers. Here, in what is clearly a wonderful augury for the future of the field, author participation ended up being so high that a double issue was required.

The above successes and those in the past have the editors favorably disposed to consider further special issues in the future. So, if you want to render homage to a specific individual of high stature, highlight a particular sub-discipline of supramolecular chemistry, or to share in written form the intellectual developments of a meeting you are organizing, please let us know. We can’t promise in advance that your proposal will be accepted but you can be sure it will be given a fair hearing!

Finally, we want to thank all the authors who were so kind as to submit reviews to *Supramolecular Chemistry* during the last couple of years. In all cases, these articles have attracted considerable attention and have gone a great way towards enhancing the reputation of the journal. As importantly, these reviews have provided the community with chemical information to which it might not have access from any other source. We would thus like to urge you to consider submitting a review to *Supramolecular Chemistry* but would like to ask that you contact the editors prior to submission so as to avoid duplication and to ensure an appropriate level of readership interest.

The above represent specific ways whereby you can help make *Supramolecular Chemistry* a further success. However, you can help in other ways, such as making an effort to read and cite interesting papers that touch on your research efforts and gently

spreading the word about *Supramolecular Chemistry* to students, colleagues, and to the extent it is appropriate, potential paying clients, such as librarians and industrial researchers. *Supramolecular Chemistry* was founded on the principle that it would serve the community. Unfortunately, this lofty goal cannot be achieved if it can't retain a strong financial base and if we don't all pitch in to help. So, please think how you can help. And, as always, please do not hesitate to offer us suggestions for ways in which we can work to improve the journal. Maintaining and enhancing *Supramolecular Chemistry* has been, and will continue to be, a team effort and we want and need you on the team!

Jonathan L. Sessler, Editor  
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Simon J. Coles, Crystallographic Editor