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Preface to the Special Issue of Supramolecular Chemistry in South Korea

The current issue of the *Supramolecular Chemistry* contains selected articles by Korean research groups in various fields of supramolecular chemistry. The 16 articles contained herein provide an overview of current work on molecular recognition, self-assembly, crystal engineering, photo-functional supermolecules, computational approaches of molecular recognition, chemosensors, anion recognition and supramolecular containers currently underway in Korea.

The article from the group of J. S. Kim concerns a molecular logic gate based on a calix[4]crown-5 that is controlled by cations and anions. The paper from J. Kang and co-workers reports on the anion binding behaviour of functionalized glycouril whilst K. S. Jeong *et al.* have developed new indole-based, multi-hydrogen bonding anion receptors. The work by W. D. Jang and co-workers elegantly demonstrates the construction of supramolecular, photo-functional dendrimer assemblies having potential biomedical applications whilst K. H. Ahn's group have reported the synthesis of metal-containing trifurcate assemblies that function as chemosensors. The work by J. Y. Lee and co-workers examines computational approaches to molecular recognition, self-assembly, electron-transport and surface chemistry. J. Y. Yoon *et al.* give an overview of recent developments in ion-selective fluorescence chemosensors whilst K. S. Kim

and co-workers discuss the design of ionophores and molecular nanotubes. H. S. Kim and co-workers report the synthesis and fluorescence sensing properties of thiazole-containing benzocrown ethers, while S. S. Lee *et al.* discuss the supramolecular assembly of thiaoxa macrocycles. J. I. Hong *et al.* nicely demonstrates the synthesis of carbohydrate recognition using C₃-symmetric polypyridine assembly and K. S. Paek *et al.* discuss the synthesis and self-assembly of an octacyanobis-cavitand molecular container. C. H. Lee and co-workers have reported the synthesis of tightly capped-calix[6]-pyrroles and strapped calix[4]pyrrole bearing fluorogenic moiety for anion recognition. The work by K. M. Kim *et al.* demonstrates the selective host-guest complex formation between cucurbit[8]uril and electron donor-acceptor molecules.

The current issue highlights many interesting aspects of contemporary supramolecular chemistry and will become a valuable source of reference. We thank all the contributing authors and the editors of the *Supramolecular Chemistry*, Jonathan L. Sessler and Philip A. Gale, who have supported the publication of this special issue for the Korean chemistry community.

Jongmin Kang, Kimoon Kim and Chang Hee Lee