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## Preface

# Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Tetrahedron 1957–2007

Fifty years of publishing experimental and theoretical research results of outstanding significance and timeliness in the field of organic chemistry and its application to related disciplines especially bio-organic chemistry. This is the legacy of *Tetrahedron*.

In celebration of this significant milestone in scientific publishing, the Executive Board of Editors for Tetrahedron Publications and Elsevier have organized two exceptional 50th Anniversary Symposia. In the first of these, former recipients of the Tetrahedron Prize will present their most recent work at the 8th Tetrahedron Symposium 'Challenges in Organic Chemistry', to be held in Berlin, Germany, 27–29 June 2007. In order to enable broader participation to commemorate our anniversary, a special three-part Symposium-in-Print has been organized, entitled 'Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Tetrahedron, 1957–2007'. These issues feature contributions from many of the leading practitioners in the field of organic chemistry. Because of space constraints, we were unable to invite every outstanding organic chemist to contribute to this Anniversary Symposium-in-Print, and many who were invited were unable to

participate owing to time constraints. Nevertheless, we have collected 84 exciting papers representing the broad discipline of organic chemistry. For example, there are papers outlining the total syntheses of complex natural products and other compounds having desirable biological or material properties. Other important papers describe useful new methods for stereoselective carbon–carbon bond formation and reduction and for performing a diverse array of catalytic transformations using transition metal complexes, organic molecules, and genetically engineered proteins. The papers assembled in these three issues represent some of the most exciting organic chemistry of the day, and I hope you enjoy reading them as much as I did.

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