

Our New Look for the New Millennium

As promised as we closed the last volume and the last century, this issue introduces *The Chemical Educator's* new look for a new millennium. Articles are now presented in the more reader-familiar and printer-friendly two-column format. Our new style is more compact; thus, file sizes are smaller and download faster.

In addition to the unique identification number that has been used to identify articles in past volumes, we are now using page numbers. Page numbers will run consecutively by volume. Issue 1 will begin on page 1 and numbering will continue through issue 6; therefore, only volume numbers (and not issue numbers) will be needed to cite and locate papers. This will allow authors to cite *Chemical Educator* articles in a more traditional manner for their manuscripts and vitae.

Beginning with Volume 5, Issue 1, we are preparing articles (in PDF format) for the Web using Adobe Acrobat 4.0. For best results, readers should use Adobe reader 3.0 or higher (available for download from the Adobe website) to view and print these files. Initially, we will present articles in HTML as well as PDF format. HTML files are often better for online browsing (previewing) and on-screen reading. They are smaller, files download faster, the screen is more readable, and browser add-ins are not needed. The PDF files are recommended for printing and are considered the official publication.

Filenames will also change with this issue and format, making their identity, citation, and accessibility easier for readers. The filename for the main article will consist of the following: (1) the volume number, (2) the issue number, (3) the starting page number (with a required four digits), (4) the authors first and last initials, and (5) the file extension (.pdf or .htm). Graphics files used with the HTML version have g1, g2, etc. added to the filename and the extension .gif or .jpg. If there is supporting material it will be named as above, plus the letter "s" and the numbers 1, 2, ... depending on how many files of supporting material are included. For example, the PDF version of the article in this issue beginning on page 2 and written by Judith Bonicamp has the filename 510002jb.pdf. The HTML version has the filename 510002jb.htm, and the graphics files associated with the HTML version are named sequentially as 510002jbg1, 510002jbg2, and so on. This article does not have any associated supporting material, but if it did the first file would be named 510002jbs1.pdf; the second, 510002jbs2.pdf; etc.

The pages are formatted for duplex printing and binding. This will allow us to produce archive print versions of the journal, which will be initially offered to institutional subscribers. These print volumes will be available in color or black and white versions. They will contain the Table of Contents, articles, and media reviews from each issue. Volume 4 (1999) will be converted to this format and its archival print version made available in early 2000. The Internet has made incredible strides in acceptance and functionality since its inception. Most publishers, including Springer-Verlag, guarantee the continuous availability of their journals. Still, protection of the primary literature is a philosophical and occupation concern of librarians, who still feel a need for secondary sources for this information. Although we initially considered CD-ROM format as the secondary source for *The*

Chemical Educator, we have become convinced that paper is the most desired and most accepted method for archiving the literature. In addition to the initial offering of a print version of Volume 4, we are considering making Volumes 1–3 available in print, as well.

How does this new format impact readers and authors? Actually, only positively, we are still able to produce articles using full-color graphics and to include Internet-specific components, such as active and interactive figures; video clips; and downloadable executable programs, program files, and other supporting information. Moreover, in addition to the advantages discussed above for our readers, authors, too, will find the format easier to use. Most of our requirements follow ACS Style Guide recommendations. The few exceptions and some notable changes from the old requirements are outlined in our new Notice to Authors.

We hope you enjoy the new look of *The Chemical Educator*. As always, your comments are welcomed and encouraged.



Clifford LeMaster
Editor-in-Chief

References and Notes.

1. *The ACS Style Guide - A Manual for Authors and Editors*, 2nd ed.; Dodd, J. S., Ed.; American Chemical Society: Washington DC, 1997.