

## Introduction to Special Issue

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It is a pleasure to honor the contributions of Werner Loewenstein with this special issue. As many readers already realize, Werner was the founding editor of this journal and through his leadership and examples, he brought the journal to the forefront of the scientific community. Werner has made important scientific contributions throughout his career and Hiroshi kindly provided a connection point between current work in the gap junction field and the contributions that Werner has made. Parmender has

written an excellent introduction to this body of work and the connections from our authors in this special issue to the founding work that Werner and his group performed.

I feel honored to be taking over the helm of the journal as the new editor-in-chief. The transition brings new challenges and new opportunities to those of us who read the journal regularly. I welcome input from our readers as we make changes and hope that the journal will see continued growth and importance through the future.