

A New Beginning

This issue represents a new beginning for the *AIChE Journal*, with a redesigned cover and format. We also added a new section called *Perspectives*, which debuts in this issue. Several reasons have motivated the introduction of this new section.

There used to be a time when a well-educated chemical engineer could be quite familiar with all aspects of the profession. That time is gone. Nevertheless, chemical engineers have been, and arguably still are, the broadest of all engineers. But there are forces that pull us apart.

The goal of the *Perspectives* section is to inform and reinforce the center of a vibrant discipline that has rapidly moved in many outward directions. This section is intended to publish articles that point the way, identify emerging opportunities, and provide overall perspectives about areas of interest to all chemical engineers. The objective is to offer our readers lively articles that stimulate, educate, and are easy to digest—something that can be read in one sitting.

Perspectives articles will be written by a blend of academic and industrial authors, addressing themes of the avant garde and the traditional. Occasionally we will look outward, where challenges and opportunities may lie—bio-informatics, green processing, global warming, etc. It is understood and, in fact, encouraged that the articles reflect the authors' viewpoints. The authors are given license to express their particular insights, even prejudices (without malice), about the subjects addressed. We will showcase difference viewpoints. However, articles exclusively promoting a company, product, or service are not acceptable.

We expect that *Perspectives* will not only reinforce communication across the field of chemical engineer-

ing, but also will create a lively forum within *AIChE Journal* that will make each month's issue a bit more interesting to pick up.

The contributions will contain about 1,800 words, no more than 20 references or so, and a maximum of two figures and a table; the pieces may or may not have subheadings. The reference style will be the same as the regular articles in the *Journal*. The *Perspective* article will usually be highlighted on the cover, but occasionally we may deviate from this practice to feature regular articles of special interest. In general, these articles will be invited, but authors who come up with suitable ideas for this section may contact Julio M. Ottino, who has editorial responsibility for *Perspectives*.

There are several other developments in the operations of the *Journal*. Now, an on-line version of the *Journal* is available, and even newer ways of delivering the content of the *Journal* electronically are under consideration. We are in the midst of implementing an almost fully electronic review process, which is expected to shorten the time from submission to publication significantly. Submissions remain high and growing. *AIChE Journal* enters this new beginning in a very healthy state. We look forward to hearing your reactions to these new innovations.

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Editor

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Perspectives Section