

PREFACE

The *Annual Report in Medicinal Chemistry* is dedicated to furthering legitimate interest in learning, chronicling, and sharing information on the discovery of compounds and the methods that lead to new therapeutic advances. *ARMC*'s tradition is to provide disease-based reviews and highlight emerging technologies of interest to medicinal chemists.

A distinguishing feature of *ARMC* is its knowledgeable section editors in the field who evaluate invited reviews for scientific rigor. This volume contains 31 chapters in eight sections. The first five sections have a therapeutic focus. Their topics include CNS diseases (edited by Albert J. Robichaud); cardiovascular and metabolic diseases (edited by Andrew Stamford); inflammatory, pulmonary, and gastrointestinal diseases (edited by David S. Weinstein); oncology (edited by Shelli R. McAlpine); and infectious diseases (edited by John Primeau). Sections VI and VII review important topics in biology (edited by John A. Lowe) and new technologies for drug optimization (edited by Peter R. Bernstein). The last section deals with drugs approved by the FDA in the previous year (edited by JoAnne Bronson).

While committed to maintaining the *ARMC* tradition, the current volume experiments with new ways to keep it relevant to medicinal chemists. The format for Volume 47 follows previous issues but has two new features. Added for the first time are personal essays, written by *MEDI* hall of famers, which express the personal stories and scientific careers of "drug hunters." The volume opens with essays by Paul Anderson, Peter Bernstein, and Ross Johnson. Additionally, we have included for the first time a chapter in the last section listing new chemical entities that have entered Phase III in 2011.

This would not have been possible without our panel of section editors, to whom I am indeed very grateful. I would like to thank the authors of this volume for their hard work, patience, dedication, and scholarship in the lengthy process of writing, editing, and making last-minute edits and revisions to their contributions. Further, I extend my sincere thanks to the following reviewers who have provided independent edits to the chapters: Myra Beaudoin Bertrand, George Chang, Bert Chenard, Michael Clarke, Andrew Combs, Chris Cox, Kevin Currie, Mike DeNinno, Robert Dow, Carolyn Dzierba, Gary Flynn, Randall Halcomb, David Kimball, Michael Kort, Lori Krim-Gavrin, Katerina Leftheris, Mary Mader, James R. Merritt, Ryan Moslin, Gregory Notte, Chris O'Donnell, Anandan

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Finally, I would like to thank John E. Macor, who was the editor-in-chief for Volumes 42 through 46, for his outstanding stewardship. I am immensely grateful to John in the transition to this volume and for handing over the reins on a solid path.

I hope the material provided in this volume will serve as a precious resource on important aspects of medicinal chemistry and, in this way, maintain the tradition of excellence that *ARMC* has brought to us for more than four decades. I am excited about our new initiatives; I look forward to hearing from you about them and welcome your suggestions for future content.

MANOJ C. DESAI, Ph.D.
Gilead Sciences, Inc.
Foster City, CA