Foreword

The most successful industrial applications of organometallic chemistry are in the fields of catalysis and the electronics industry. The electronics and optoelectronics industries are based on information-processing and storage devices that incorporate a wide variety of thin films which offer conducting, insulating, protective, magnetic, ferroelectric, optically nonlinear and other appropriate properties. The development of methods of applying these films and controlling

their properties, during device manufacture, has created a whole field of chemistry within the realm of organometallic chemistry. In this issue, we have attempted to highlight several rapidly developing areas of thin-film processing using organometallic chemistry. The very dynamic nature of the field and its extreme breadth suggest that more issues of this type will follow naturally from this beginning.

R. M. LAINE