

Editorial 1 - Jan 2014

I'm excited to take over the helm at *Bioconjugate Chemistry*. My goal for the journal is to make it *the* place for cutting-edge research at the interface of the synthetic and biological worlds. I have been fortunate to recruit a highly accomplished group of Associate Editors, featuring Brad Smith, Erin Lavik, Jan van Hest, and Gang Zheng. This editorial team is designed to broaden the scope of the journal, providing diversity in multiple dimensions. We will build upon the respected reputation *BC* has earned, moving the journal into new and exciting areas including chemical biology, immunology, and new hybrid nanomaterials.

I feel strongly that many of the most significant scientific advances in the coming years will come about through "cyborg" combinations of man-made and biological systems with enhanced functional capabilities. We at *BC* will be working together to bring you the best science from around the world in this area. We will be looking in particular for systems in which the chemistry and biology work together in synergy, providing novel materials and enabling exciting new applications that neither could achieve on its own.

As part of our efforts to connect with readers and authors, we will be developing new ways at *BC* to serve the scientific community. On the publishing side, we will focus on providing meaningful and helpful feedback to authors at all stages of the review process, as well as rapid time to publication. We will also be developing a social media presence—keep your eyes open for the "Bioconjugate Café" (on Facebook), a location for researchers around the world to interact in an informal environment.

As we transition to our new editorial team, I'd like to thank the people whose vision and pioneering efforts have made the journal what it is today. As founding Editor, Claude Meares built the journal from scratch, establishing *BC*'s high standards for rigor and significance. Both Claude and Ann Meares have been extremely helpful throughout the transition process, as have the rest of the previous team: Senior Editors Paul Miller and Peter Senter and Associate Editors Ferenc Hudecz and Masayuki Yokoyama.

As we move into this new phase, we at *BC* are looking forward to working with the current journal community, while also welcoming new researchers from the many other areas where synthesis and biology intersect. An important thing to remember is that as authors, reviewers, and readers, *you* are the journal. Let's work together to make *BC* a highly valued resource for our community.



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