

## Publisher's Note

On behalf of Elsevier, welcome to another exciting year for *Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry Letters* and the Tetrahedron family of publications. This first issue of 2005 provides an opportunity for us to reflect on the year just passed, and to touch on the challenges of the year ahead.

### Accessibility and Readership

During 2004 the Tetrahedron journals continued to experience considerable success. The number of institutes subscribing to the journals and gaining access to the content online continued to grow; many thousands of organisations are now able to access the journals in print or online.

Renewals of ScienceDirect accounts have progressed very well too, with many high profile institutes renewing their access to the Tetrahedron family of titles, along with other leading journals published by Elsevier.

The number of downloads from the Tetrahedron journals continues to increase—a clear indication of the relevance, quality and accessibility of the articles published in these internationally renowned titles. During 2004 alone, an estimated ten million articles were downloaded from these journals via ScienceDirect.

### Journal Developments

Specific to *Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry Letters* (BMCL), the journal has again seen an increase in both citations and impact factor; it is now the second most cited journal in the 'Medicinal Chemistry' ISI® category.

The journal's international prestige and the exceptional service received by authors has resulted in a further and substantial increase in submissions. Compared to the previous year, 20% more manuscripts were accepted for publication, and the journal is confirmed as leading the field with the greatest number of articles published (ISI® Journal Citation Report 2003, 'Medicinal Chemistry' category).

Despite this considerable growth in submissions, production times remain among the fastest around. Articles are frequently published online just 3 weeks after acceptance, with many appearing considerably faster than this.

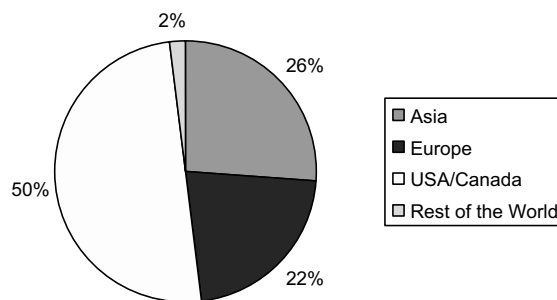


Figure 1. Geographic distribution of BMCL authors in 2004.

The journal continues to be truly international—both in terms of readership and authorship. Figure 1 shows an overview of the origin of articles published in *BMCL* during 2004, demonstrating the international balance of papers accepted for publication.

### Recent Developments

In response to feedback from researchers worldwide, several important developments have been implemented during the past year, including:

#### Cover Graphics

Regular readers of the journal will notice the eye-catching new cover designs, occasionally featuring images provided by authors of papers published in a given issue. This development allows greater attention to be drawn to commissioned Symposia-in-Print, or individual articles of particular interest.

#### New Design of Graphical Abstracts

The contents pages of the journal have been redesigned to provide a clearer, quicker overview of the contents of each issue. The new design has made both print and online browsing more appealing and easier.

#### Tetrahedron Computer Methodology (TCM)

In September last year, *Tetrahedron Computer Methodology*, a Tetrahedron publication published between 1988 and 1990, became available on ScienceDirect. An international journal for research in computer chemistry, TCM was the first scientific journal to be published simultaneously in print and electronic form, with the latter being enhanced by supplementary information. It is perhaps appropriate that this pioneering

and somewhat experimental journal from Tetrahedron Publications becomes accessible, many years on, through the internet.

### Presentation of Figures in ScienceDirect

Functionalities for online browsing on ScienceDirect have been reviewed and improved: for example, the reader can now choose whether to view either thumbnail or full size graphics when viewing a paper in HTML format.

### Tetrahedron Activities

During 2004 there have been a number of significant activities dedicated to the Tetrahedron Publications. These have been well supported by the organic chemistry community, and have proved to be highly successful events.

#### 5th Tetrahedron Symposium

Last year's Tetrahedron Symposium was held in New York on 18 June 2004. The theme of the meeting was "interaction of chemistry and biology", and the event was co-sponsored by *Drug Discovery Today*. The presentations from the invited speakers, including Professors Boger, Danishefsky, Jorgensen, Lipinski, Maryanoff, Posner, Schreiber and Scolnick, enthralled the many delegates attending this international event.

#### Tetrahedron Chair 2004

The Tetrahedron Chair was awarded to Professor Alois Fürstner, Director of the Max-Planck Institut für Kohlenforschung, Mülheim/Ruhr, Germany. The presentation was made on the opening day of the Tenth Belgium Organic Synthesis Symposium, held in Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium. As part of the occasion, Professor Fürstner presented a full day lecture entitled "Metathesis and Beyond" to an estimated 500 symposium delegates.

#### Tetrahedron Prize Symposium

The 2003 Tetrahedron Prize for Creativity was presented jointly to Professor Robert Grubbs (CALTECH, Pasadena) and Professor Dieter Seebach (ETH, Zürich). The associated Prize Symposium was held at the ACS National Meeting in Philadelphia on 23 August 2004, with over 1000 conference delegates attending their scientific presentations, and those of their co-presenters, Professor Seeberger and Professor Swager.

#### Tetrahedron Young Investigator Awards

Following the annual meeting of the Executive Board of Editors for Tetrahedron Publications, two new awards were created. These two awards are intended to recognise exceptional creativity and dedication to the scientists' field of research, covering 'Organic Synthesis' and 'Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry', respectively. In addition to a cash prize, the two awardees will be invited to present a plenary lecture at the 6th Tetrahedron Symposium being held in Bordeaux (29 June–1 July 2005). A call for nominations is already underway, with a closing date for nominations of 15 January 2005.

### 2005—The Year Ahead

2005 will also see some exciting new developments and activities, several of which are focussed on further improving services to authors, reviewers and readers.

#### New Chairman

As we enter 2005, Professor Bruce Ganem of Cornell University takes over as Chairman of the Executive Board of Tetrahedron Publications. We congratulate Professor Ganem on his appointment and wish him an enjoyable term as Chairman.

#### New Online Submission System

Author services will be further improved through the launch of Elsevier's next generation e-submission system. The new system promises improved functionality, stability, and technical support for both authors and reviewers. Publications times are expected to continue to decrease as the benefits of this new submission system are realised.

#### 6th Tetrahedron Symposium—Challenges in Organic Chemistry

The 6th Tetrahedron Symposium will be held in Bordeaux, 29 June–1 July 2005. Previous symposia have been held in Munich, Kyoto, Shanghai, Oxford and New York. Already an impressive list of speakers has been confirmed, and a 'Call for Abstracts' is underway for the symposium poster sessions. Further details may be found at: [www.tetrahedron-symposium.elsevier.com](http://www.tetrahedron-symposium.elsevier.com)

#### Tetrahedron Prize for Creativity in Organic Chemistry, 2004

The Tetrahedron Prize for 2004 will be presented to Professor Nakanishi at the Fall ACS National Meeting in Washington. The provisional date for the Prize Symposium and presentation of the Award is Monday 29 August 2005.

#### ScienceDirect and Scopus

ScienceDirect will continue to be enhanced in response to feedback from the community, and new search tools such as Scopus™ promise great advancements in the identification and evaluation of the best articles from all parts of the publishing world. During the year, we plan to launch clickable graphical abstracts within ScienceDirect.

On behalf of Elsevier and the journal Editors, I would like to thank our authors, reviewers and Editorial Board members for their continued support during 2004, and we look forward to 2005 being another successful year for Tetrahedron Publications.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year.

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