Available online at www.sciencedirect.com
SCIENCE DIRECT®
Coordination Chemistry Reviews 250 (2006) 729
COORDINATION CHEMISTRY REVIEWS
www.elsevier.com/locate/ccr

Preface

The Actinides clearly represent an extremely important part of inorganic chemistry but the radioactive nature of most of them means that, aside perhaps from uranium, they can only be explored in laboratories that are especially set up to deal with such dangerous materials. Thus such studies are limited to a comparatively few laboratories around the world.

Yet, we can expect that these elements will provide us with an extraordinary diversity of behavior similar to, if not more extensive than, the Lanthanides which are rapidly growing in importance and potential application. Study of the Actinides also provides a basis for the future studies of even heavier elements, not yet discovered, that theory suggests may have longer lifetimes.

This issue of Coordination Chemistry Reviews collects together various aspects of the chemistry of the Actinides to provide a current brief to our readership of the present status of the field. The volume contains a wide range of articles from what might be termed classical coordination chemistry, through speciation and separation, catalysis, structural chemistry, gas phase studies, solution chemistry, thermodynamics, quantum mechanical aspects, various spectroscopies and even the biocoordination of uranium, etc.

I thank our contributors and hope that our readership will find this collection both entertaining and valuable.

A.B.P. Lever*
York University, Department of Chemistry, 4700 Keele Street, Toronto, Ont., Canada M3J 1P3

* Tel.: +1 416 736 5246; fax: +1 416 736 5936.
E-mail address: blever@yorku.ca

0010-8545/$ – see front matter © 2006 Published by Elsevier B.V.
doi:10.1016/j.ccr.2006.02.021