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## Critical Reviews in Analytical Chemistry

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### Letter from the Editor

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## Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers:

Is there as much excitement in Analytical Chemistry today as was the case when I was at Purdue in the late 1960s? Back then, lab computer use was the exception and I remember interviewing for a faculty position and being told that it was a fad and anything worthwhile could be done using an X-Y recorder! HPLC was in its infancy and many of the now-common mass spectrometry tools awaited invention and exploitation. Then again, there were PittCon sessions on the future of Analytical Chemistry [if any]. The thesis of the organizers was clearly: there was no future. With the hindsight of 40 years, one could question their insight!

There are many challenges in measurement today as exciting as those salad days of 1968. These range from such new areas as ionic fluid use to the measurement technology needed for assay of the use of micro- or better, nano-structures in drug delivery and single molecule detection. Based on the last 40 years, it would be dangerous to imply an all-inclusive list of future challenges. An area often overlooked is the need to convey the knowledge of measurement science to an ever-growing new audience of life science researchers largely unaware of the advances in measurement science except those few who were introduced in true collaborative research. There is a real need for critical reviews in both the developing, and more developed, areas for that reason.

The list is long and the number of cutting-edge experiments now reduced to routine practice is also a long list. Critical Reviews in Analytical Chemistry seeks articles with historical perspective but that perspective need not be 40 years. It can be 40 weeks in a rapidly developing area or a new direction in an older one. Long ago (it does not seem so long) and before chemometrics became a commonly used term, SIMPLEX Optimization became of analytical interest. This year the Journal will devote two issues to the topic of chemometrics from a variety of viewpoints—old and new.

**C. H. Lochmüller**

**Editor-in-Chief**

