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Letter from the Editor

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Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers:

When I was asked to take over as Editor-in-Chief for Critical Reviews in Analytical Chemistry, one of the innovations I proposed was the occasional “theme” issue or issues. I soon discovered that the same idea had been part of the editors I was to replace [thinking of something new is hard!], and I discovered it is easier to talk about than to achieve. This issue is a theme issue focusing on chemometrics.

Chemometrics spans more than analytical chemistry and, for that matter, chemistry as a whole. I can remember fending off chemistry colleagues demanding to know how one “measures a chemo” for many years after the name was introduced in a language where such confusion does not arise. It is also true that many of us were doing linear and non-linear modeling, optimization [of sorts], etc., just as people were using Kalman filters in chemical engineering and missile guidance four decades ago. What has changed on one front is the effort to apply the methods of chemometrics to complex chemical systems. There is a great deal more. It is clear that no single or double issue of review papers could “completely” do justice to “all” the promise offered in the area encompassed by the word “chemometrics.” I am pleased with what the guest editors, Profs. Hanrahan and Gemperline, have brought to you, the readership, in this issue.

The next issue of the Journal is nearing completion as this letter is written and contains a broad range of topics. I remain open to ideas about additional theme issues, and the Journal welcomes additional papers in areas as broad as chemometrics, separations, spectrometry, electrochemistry, and the environment as always.

C. H. Lochmüller

Editor-in-Chief

