

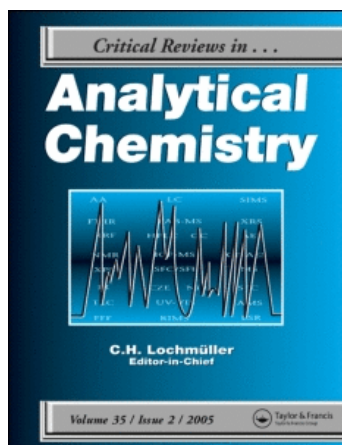
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### Letter from the Editor

C. H. Lochmüller Editor-in-Chief

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## Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers:

It is interesting to reflect on the changes that have occurred in Analytical Chemistry since I first heard the name. Forgive a bit of philosophy from the Editor but “it depends on your definition of change!” seems appropriate. Granted that gas chromatography was becoming commonplace [although some academic departments advertised in the 1960’s they had one available] but there was no HPLC, no routine nmr, and computers practically required their own buildings. There were no LCD displays and no cellular phones neither but do they represent real change? I would contend that Analytical Chemistry has never changed from the focus of how does one identify and quantitate things chemical and how to do it with certainty and do it reproducibly.

Does that mean there is nothing truly new? There are new challenges without doubt. A brilliant synthetic chemist making peptide mimetics still thinks like a synthetic chemist—no? The chemist looking into analytical applications of ionic fluids in less obvious ways sees new challenges without doubt. I can remember suggesting a decade ago that it would not be long until nano-scale devices became structures of interest for drug delivery to an audience that was politely amused. This month the headline that struck me is that “FDA has gone nano!”

The Journal would be delighted to entertain articles related to the measurement challenges of areas like nano-structure use. That does not mean to imply that the continuing challenges in environmental chemistry, drug metabolism and fate, air-borne pathogens, explosives in a variety of containers [cargo containerized freight perhaps?] lead in toys and on and on.

Happy Spring!

**C. H. Lochmüller**  
**Editor-in-Chief**

