

An Event-Full Year



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2007 was planned to be a celebratory year marking the tenth anniversary of the inorganic and organic chemistry journals, EurJIC and EurJOC, that the European societies established in 1998. At times of family celebrations there are always many people to thank, and as a journal reflects in microcosm our world, so do I look back on ten years in general, and this year in particular, with gratitude for the collaboration with many people, without whom the vision of the societies could not have been realized. Right at the start I wish to thank all our well-wishers, authors, peer reviewers and readers who have made the journal what it is today. It has been my privilege to work with some of you more intensely this year and my pleasure to meet many others in person at the two conferences which we selected for celebrations.

Anniversaries and Thanks

Within the wider “family” of EurJIC, the year brought two other anniversaries. The publisher John Wiley & Sons itself first opened its business

200 years ago, and the Société Française de Chimie (SFC), one of the oldest chemical societies in the world and one of the owner societies of EurJIC, is 150 years old. With the support of this experience, the journal has been nurtured and can enter its second decade with confidence.

The year began with a change to three issues a month. The wisdom of the move can be confirmed on looking back

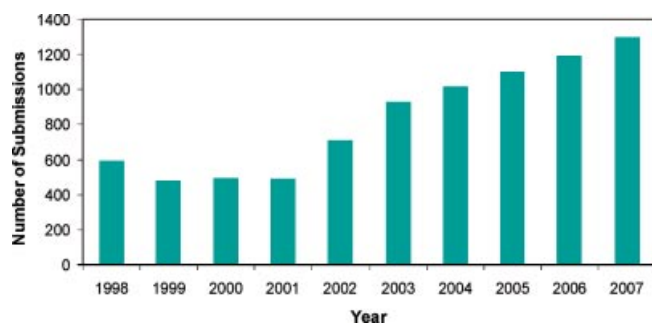


Figure 1. Development in the submissions to EurJIC since its inception.

over the 36 issues. The step was taken in the face of steadily increasing submissions since 2001 (see Figure 1). We passed the number submitted last year in mid November 2007 and the growth over the same time last year is 13.7% at present. The number of pages again steadily grew (see Figure 2), in spite of the increase in the rejection rate to 56% and the reliance on Supporting Information, which is published electronically only, for a lot of data that is important to back up the results but not directly involved in the main message of a paper.

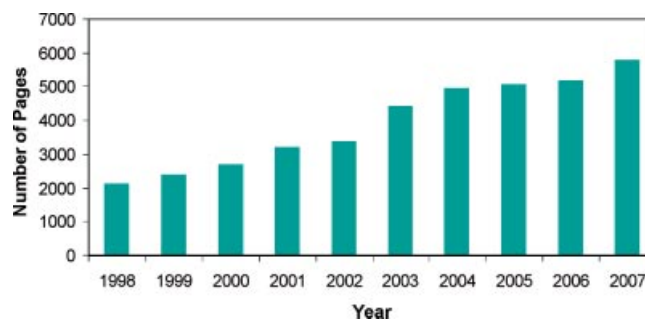


Figure 2. Growth of EurJIC from 1998 to 2007.

Again the ISI Impact Factor rose. The latest value counting cites to EurJIC in 2006 is 2.704. Here I wish to thank firstly the authors who submit their quality papers to EurJIC but also the peer reviewers, whose careful work often improves the papers. Their comments act like the discussion of a lecture at a conference to give the authors new ideas as well, so that not only the current paper but also the future research gains from their insights. I quote here lines that I received this year, to pass on to all our thorough reviewers in recognition not only by me, but also by authors of your work: “Once more you could get very good review reports. I should say that I have rarely seen such professional reports.” Quality takes time and in this aspect we are not prepared to sacrifice quality for speed.

Quality Peer Review

The European celebrations of the tenth anniversary were linked with the 9th FIGIPAS Meeting in Inorganic Chemistry held this year in Vienna. Not only did Congress Chairman Karl Kirchner and his team put together a perfectly organized event with an excellent list of speakers in all fields of inorganic chemistry, he also found time together with Maurizio Peruzzini, both Board members of EurJIC, to guest edit the celebratory issue of EurJIC, which was published as planned to coincide with the conference. If you have not yet discovered this gem, it will be well worth looking at issue number 18 of EurJIC 2007. You will find something to interest you! As the journal sponsored two Poster Prizes, the EurJIC reception opened the first Poster Session,

Congratulations to Prizewinners

at which the poster of Iris Aviv on *Iron Porphyrins and Corroles As Extremely Efficient Catalysts for N–H Activation of Amines and Ammonia by Diazoacetates* took

the honours. In Figure 3 you see her with her mentor Zeev Gross. Valérie Marvaud stands beside her prize-winning poster *Photomagnetic High Spin Molecules* from the second Poster Session in Figure 4. The work of another four young researchers was highly recommended (see Table 1). The link between FIGIPAS and EurJIC will be continued and the journal will regularly sponsor four poster prizes in future.



Figure 3. Prizewinner Iris Aviv from Technion-Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel, with her mentor Zeev Gross.

At the 234th American Chemical Society National Meeting in Boston in August, EurJIC held a reception at the Wiley stand for our many friends in the United States. It was good to meet with those who by virtue of geographical distance are known to us mainly through correspondence. Haymo Ross, editor of EurJOC, and I highlighted the

major Society personalities who worked tirelessly at the start of this project to create a family of journals for European Societies. This group of societies, who have now formed the Editorial Union of Chemical Societies to steer their journals, represents about 80000 chemists on the continent. A big word of thanks is also due to my colleagues in Weinheim and Hoboken, who are responsible for our stands and the logistics at conferences.



Figure 4. Valérie Marvaud from Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris, France, in front of her prize-winning poster.

Now I turn to an incident of an entirely different calibre. According to the download figures, many of you noticed the highly unusual “Comment by the Editorial Office” that replaced not only the EarlyView PDF, but also the header of an article from EurJIC in September. The result of the investigation into the fraud was posted in November. Again it is clear that our pursuit of chemistry is a microcosm of our society, and though cases as severe as this are fortunately rare, it is impossible to prevent it happening altogether. It is not what happens that is important, but how we react to it. I mention it here, because it has reference to my Editorial in 2006.^[1] There I made a plea for formal education in the ethics of science. During the cooperation with the Ethics Commission of the College of Chemistry and Molecular Engineering of Peking University to resolve this case, it became clear that Peking University is making an exemplary attempt to do just that and does not shrink from the consequences. The perpetrator was rusticated.

At times of anniversary the past and the future intermingle. This year we take leave of Jan Reedijk, who has been a member of the Board since the

Changes in the Board

Table 1. Highly recommended posters from the 9th FIGIPAS Meeting in Inorganic Chemistry.

Name	Institute	Title
Jorge García-Barras	UA-CSIC, Logroño, Spain	Gold and Silver Compounds As Precursors for Nanomaterials: Metallo dendrimers and Nanoparticles
Clémence Allain	Univ. Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris, France	Preparation of New Hybrid Organic/Inorganic Polyoxometalates
Juan C. García-Ramos	UNAM, Mexico City, Mexico	QSAR Study of Copper Complexes Casiopeínas®
Alessandro Zanardi	Univ. Jaume I, Castelló, Spain	Olefin Functionalized NHC-Iridium Based Catalysts for Alkyne Hydrosilylation

inception of the journal and in 2007 Chairman. EurJIC has benefited from his fair judgments and high standards and he has been instrumental in shaping its success. We thank Jan for his hard work, his example as prolific author, and through electronic communication from all over the world, his availability almost immediately whenever we had occasion to call upon him. We wish him every success in his endeavours. As his successor to the Editorial Board we welcome Bas de Bruin from the van 't Hoff Institute at the University of Amsterdam. Taking over as Chairman of the Board is Rinaldo Poli, who we have come to value for his energy and commitment to EurJIC.

And finally back to family matters. As EurJIC moves into “adolescence”, a new member of the family is expected –

ChemSusChem will concentrate on solving the pressing problems of our environment by promoting sustainability through the advances in chemical, materials and energy research. In addition, the EUChemSoc societies and the Asian Chemical Editorial Society (ACES) are working closer together, fully supporting each other's journals *Chemistry – A European Journal* and *Chemistry – An Asian Journal*. Exciting times lie ahead.

In this vein, I wish all our readers a similarly exciting time for their research, every success and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

[1] Editorial, *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2006**, 5–7.

