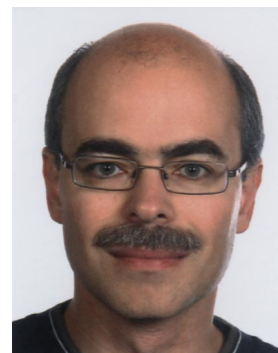


Highly Professional Yet Personal



Haymo Ross, Editor EurJOC

Let's begin with some notable figures: In August 2008, EurJOC published its 250th issue, and with the third June issue the total number of pages printed since 1998 has already accumulated to more than 50000. Perhaps it need not be mentioned that the number of submitted papers increased again last year, but in spite of that, we managed to keep our publication times (median times from submission to on-line publication) for Short Communications at the same level (eight weeks). For Full Papers, publication times were even about two weeks shorter (eleven weeks) than in the previous year. The ISI impact factor of EurJOC has seen an unbroken increase since the foundation of the journal in 1998. It is now 2.914, which places the journal among the top organic chemistry journals. Finally, EurJOC has broadened its author base to all countries in the world; in particular, the proportion of manuscripts from China and India has risen to 14% and 11%, respectively.

New Board Members

The aforementioned figures are certainly indicative of professionalism – but what about the personal aspect? More important than the figures are the persons involved, and as far as they are concerned, there have been a few changes recently. According to the statutes of ChemPubSoc Europe (<http://www.wiley-vch.de/publish/en/business/partner/chempubsoc> – the chemical societies who co-own EurJOC, see guest editorial by Wolfram Koch), the members of both the editorial and the advisory board of the journal are not permanent members. Thus, several board members were due to retire at the end of 2008. Personally, but also in the name of ChemPubSoc Europe and of the publisher Wiley-VCH, I wish to thank Editorial Board members José Cavaleiro, Javier de Mendoza and Marcello Tiecco, whose terms of office are over, for their years of support. I've had the pleasure to work with them since I became Editor of EurJOC. At the same time, I would like to give a warm welcome to their successors Cesare Gennari, Jesús Jiménez-Barbero and Chris Stevens. Javier, however, will continue to serve the journal as a member of the International Advisory Board. Here, too, the time for a change has come, and I wish to

express my thanks to those who are now rotating off EurJOC's International Advisory Board: Luis Castedo, Jacques Fastrez, Rolf Gleiter, Koop Lammertsma, Egbert W. Meijer, Dionissios Papaioannou, David N. Reinhoudt, Hans-Ulrich Reißig, Wolfram Sander, Johannes F. G. Vliegthart and Miguel Yus. As new members of the International Advisory Board I introduce Isabel Arends, Elias Couladouros, Piet Herdewijn, Adrian Minnaard, Carmen Nájera, Herman Overkleeft, Karola Rück-Braun, Hans-Günther Schmalz and Carsten Schmuck. Note that the proportion of women on the Board has increased with this change. The aforementioned are internationally renowned chemists and I assume that the names speak for themselves. They are probably well known to you – but do you also know the people working at the front end of the journal? Get to know the people behind the scenes to whom you entrust your papers – get to know our personal side!

I should point out that EurJOC and its inorganic twin EurJIC share one editorial team, although some team members have different responsibilities at each journal (and I am the only team member involved with EurJOC only). Both journals support each other wherever necessary. Regarding competence, we can make a distinction between the secretarial/assistant and editorial level. All of the Editors have earned a Ph.D. in chemistry. EurJOC Deputy Editor Robert Temme and Managing Editor Udo Eberhardt have been with Wiley-VCH (at that time still Verlag Chemie) since 1980 and 1988, respectively, and have been working for the predecessor journals *Chemische Berichte* and *Liebigs Annalen* prior to the merger with all the other European chemistry journals in 1997/8. Associate Editor Jennifer O'Donnell joined us in 2006. Robert and Jennifer support me in the selection of referees and the decisions on acceptance. Together with Associate Editors Preeti Vashi and Arlette Itken-Fuder, who both started in 2004, they survey the editing process, which entails the recruiting, training and continuous contact with the freelance copyeditors. Udo takes the responsibility for the complete/overall workflow, and they all see to the galley proofs.

Get to know those behind the scenes



Figure 1. From left to right: Jennifer O'Donnell, Udo Eberhardt, Arlette Itken-Fuder, Robert Temme, Preeti Vashi.



Figure 2. From left to right: Carmen Leitner, Denis Ott, Silke Lautenschläger, Carola Goldenstein, Ursula Lerch, Audrey Bauer, Steffi Schieweck, Dietmar Syndikus.

When in doubt, your first contact with the editorial office will probably be through Carola Goldenstein, secretary of EurJOC, Audrey Bauer (mainly EurJIC) or Steffi Schieweck who also works for ChemBioChem. Whereas Carola and Audrey take care of submitted papers, Steffi has an eye on the incoming referee reports. The day-to-day work of our Editorial Assistants Ursula Lerch and Dietmar Syndikus includes preparing the revised manuscripts (including pre-coding/tagging) for copyediting. When, say, a graphic of your paper is missing, they will get in touch with you! Denis Ott and Silke Lautenschläger deal with any production-related matter and Carmen Leitner is in charge of reprints. Not pictured here is Karen J. Hindson. As Coordinating Managing Editor, European Journals, she is our contact to the partner societies not only for EurJOC and EurJIC but also for the newer ChemPubSoc Europe journals such as ChemBioChem.

**EurJOC articles
most cited in
organic chemistry**

As I write this editorial, the leaves outside are turning yellow and brown and are falling off the trees, which in fact is well suited to the subject of this issue's Microreview by Bernhard Kräutler et al. on p. 21. It is about chlorophyll catabolites in degreened leaves and presents some colourful chemistry. Chlorophyll degradation also occurs in ripening fruits. "Interestingly, the catabolites may have biological functions that appear to be largely unexplored", says a reviewer. "A nice example is

the contribution of chlorophyll catabolites to the colour of ripening bananas." Enjoy reading this article – and enjoy the blue bananas (no kidding)! This brings me to the final point – three years ago the Microreview entitled "Cu^I-Catalyzed Alkyne-Azide 'Click' Cycloadditions from a Mechanistic and Synthetic Perspective" by H. Hiemstra et al. (*Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2006**, 51–68) was published in the first issue of the year. To date it has received the highest number of citations of all articles published in 2006 in the subject category "Chemistry, Organic", according to ISI Web of Knowledge (data gathered on November 7, 2008). Similarly, the Microreview entitled "Recent Advances in Asymmetric Organocatalytic 1,4-Conjugate Additions" by S. B. Tsogoeva (*Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2007**, 1701–1716) shares the top position for the most citations to date of all articles published in 2007 in the same subject category. We would like to thank the authors for their extraordinary contributions, the referees for maintaining the high quality of the journal and our readers for acknowledging the influential work that we publish.



Haymo Ross
Editor

New e-mail address for EurJOC in 2009

Our e-mail address will change from ejic-ejoc@wiley-vch.de to eurjoc@wiley-vch.de as of the beginning of 2009. Our sister journal, EurJIC, will have eurjic@wiley-vch.de as its new contact address. Messages sent to the old e-mail address will be redirected for a short while after the change; however, we recommend that you use the new e-mail address to contact the specific journal for the fastest response.