

Editorial: Happy birthday to you, Professor Roberts!

Progress in science is the result of the efforts and dedication of many people, but everybody will agree that there are pioneers whose ideas and experiments have a large impact on the direction and success of research. Among those who guided and strongly influenced the course of nuclear magnetic resonance, John D. Roberts, Institute Professor of Chemistry, Emeritus at the California Institute of Technology, certainly belongs in this category, as is well documented in his fascinating autobiography *The Right Place at the Right Time* (ACS Publication, Washington, USA, 1990). His 80th birthday on 8 June seems an appropriate occasion to thank him for the outstanding contributions he made to the development of NMR in general, and in particular to the application of this technique in organic chemistry. As a member of the Advisory Board right from the

beginning of *Organic Magnetic Resonance* he has helped to develop our journal into one of the leading publication platforms in the field of magnetic resonance.

It is my privilege and pleasure to introduce this Special Issue which collects research contributions from scientists of many countries dedicated to Professor Roberts on the occasion of his 80th birthday. I thank all the authors who readily accepted my invitation to contribute and the members of our production department for their efforts in getting the manuscripts in print. I combine my wish for interesting reading with our birthday congratulations to you, Professor Roberts, sending you best wishes for health and continued interest in NMR from the community of our readers and authors.

H. Günther
Editor-in-Chief

