

Organic Process Research & Development

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Editorial

San Francisco EAB/Special Feature Sections for 2007 and 2008

I am writing this as I set off for Informex, which this year is to be held in San Francisco, one of my favourite cities. The Informex format for a trade exhibition (charging attendees to come in, but providing breakfast and lunch free in the price) works well and helps to provide lots of opportunities for networking. It was no surprise that the format is now being extended to Informex Europe. In 2007 this was to have been held in Berlin in June, but I hear that this event has now been postponed until 2008, with a change of venue to Cologne.

There are many events in the chemical/pharmaceutical calendar, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to choose which to attend. If you have wide-ranging interests, as I have, it is possible to attend a conference or exhibition almost every day of the year in some part of the world, and so I have to be selective.

We try to organise our own conferences so that they do not clash with other organisations' events, particularly those of professional societies such as the American Chemical Society (ACS) and the Society of Chemical Industry (SCI), since no one wins if the schedules are too close together and attendances are low.

At Informex, we usually hold the Editorial Advisory Board (EAB) meeting for *Org. Process Res. Dev.* (OPRD) on the last day of the event, and this is usually a lively meeting and extremely well attended, with lots of ideas for the OPRD's progress in the future. A key part of the meeting is to discuss the future Special Feature Sections and to encourage EAB members to use their contacts to get key papers, particularly review articles, for these issues. Of course

non-EAB members are welcome to suggest new topics for Special Feature Sections, and I welcome correspondence if any reader has some new ideas. At present, we have three Special Feature Sections per year, but this can be increased if there is demand and the ideas keep flowing.

The Special Feature Sections planned for later in 2007 are Asymmetric Synthesis on Large Scale (issue 3, 2007), coordinated by Hans-Jurgen Federsel and Jos Brands, and the Special Safety Section (issue 6, 2007) coordinated by Gerald Weisenburger and Paul Vogt.

For 2008 the first Special Feature Section will be Transition-Metal-Mediated C–C and C–N Bond Formation (issue 2), coordinated by Ashok Bhatia, Ian Lennon, and myself. It is likely that the second Special Feature Section will be on Continuous Processing.

Please support these special sections/issues by volunteering to write a paper now. It is amazing how deadlines, which seem a long way away, can creep up on you when you are busy. And do you know the old saying, "if you want something done, ask a busy person"? I think this is very true. All process chemists and engineers in industry are very busy, but hopefully not too busy to write papers for OPRD.

By the time you read this, I may well have met up with many of you at Informex, where I will hopefully have remembered to invite (or should that be nag?) you to write up your work for publication. Persistence pays, I find.

Trevor Laird
Editor

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