

Editorial



In 2012, the editorial team of CHIMIA will again consist of Jérôme Lacour as Editor-in-Chief and Roland Kunz as Assistant Editor. With the active support of the Editorial Board, the Advisory Board and the Technical Editor, they will thrive to ensure the success of CHIMIA for this year (and beyond).

No drastic changes in the editorial content are foreseen. The well-established and highly appreciated *Thematic Issues* and *Special Issues* will be the main activities of the Journal. Selected CHIMIA issues will again be dedicated to *Hot Topics*. These concise and critical overviews of fundamental or applied research in all areas of chemistry and biochemistry are well appreciated by CHIMIA readers. As such, these review articles have become an important part of CHIMIA. Some of these articles are extremely well cited. Hot Topics articles are usually written by invitation but authors are strongly encouraged to submit spontaneously articles or suggestions for articles to the Editor-in-Chief. Special care is given to ensure a very short publication delay for these review articles.

The present Hot Topics issue is dedicated to welcome to Switzerland seven colleagues joining the schools of chemistry and pharmacy of ETH Zürich, Paul Scherrer Institut and Uni Fribourg as new professors. These articles highlight recent development in fields as varied as catalysis, computer-assisted drug design, energy production, microfluidics, nanomaterials, polymers and surface science.

Andrew J. deMello reports on 'Continuous and Segmented Flow Microfluidics: Applications in High-throughput Chemistry and Biology', **Andreas Kilbinger** on 'Developing New Methods for the Mono-end Functionalization of Living Ring Opening Metathesis Polymers', **Alke Petri-Fink and Barbara Rothen-Rutishauser** on 'Nanoparticles and Cells: An Interdisciplinary Approach', **Thomas J. Schmidt** on 'Sputtered Cathodes for Polymer Electrolyte Fuel Cells: Insights into Potentials, Challenges and Limitations', and **Gisbert Schneider** on 'From Theory to Bench Experiment by Computer-assisted Drug Design', **Christophe Copéret** reports on 'Surface and Interfacial Chemistry'.

Let's welcome them.

Jérôme Lacour
CHIMIA Editor-in-Chief (jerome.lacour@chimia.ch)

The cover art was kindly provided by Prof. Andrew deMello, ETH Zürich. © Dr. Claire Stanley

The cover illustrates an artist's impression of some of the recent and future activities of the deMello group in the field of continuous and segmented flow microfluidics. Specifically, work has focused on developing microfluidic technologies for the analysis of single cells and organisms, nanomaterial synthesis, DNA amplification *via* the polymerase chain reaction and artificial membrane formation.