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## Editorial



### Dear Readers and Authors,

As we start the New Year of 2006, I am pleased to report that the Journal is continuing to thrive, with an ever expanding author- and readership.

Thus, in 2005 we published more papers than ever before, with a total of 3183 pages, a larger than 10% expansion over the previous year. This was facilitated by an increase in the number of issues from 15 to 20, which also helped tremendously in getting manuscripts published at a much faster rate.

The new Regional Editorial Office in Hong Kong, dedicated to processing manuscripts from the Chinese mainland, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Macau, is up and running, already dealing with more than 25 submissions per month. In this connection, it is interesting to note that, while the number of manuscripts received from almost all countries is getting larger, those originating from Japan and China has doubled.

Our Impact Factor remained stable at 2.74, but we are confident that increased efforts to attract even higher quality papers will pay off in the future in this respect.

Not surprisingly, electronic access has been very successful, and use of the online version increased by a whopping 36%; about half of the articles were published online (eFirst) in advance of print publication; and the journal's

Web site is getting "hit" more than in 2004 (+16%). Indeed, in November, all Thieme Chemistry Web sites together surpassed the 100 000 hits barrier for the first time!

Our CLUSTER section, begun in 2003, has become a very popular feature and is being continued in this issue on the topic of Brønsted acids with 7 contributions. Future areas to be highlighted in this way are, among others, C–H activation and cascade reactions.

Finally, we are working on two Special Issues for this year, one on Organic Chemistry in China, organized by the new Regional Editors, Professors Henry Wong and Hak-Fun Chow, and one dedicated to Professor Richard Heck, edited by Professor Victor Snieckus. Both of these efforts will fill voids in the literature, and I am sure that you will find them exciting to read.

On behalf of all Editorial Board members and the staff of the Editorial Office in Stuttgart, I thank you for your continued support and wish you a successful, peaceful, and happy New Year!

Peter Vollhardt  
Editor in Chief  
January 2006