

Dear authors, readers and reviewers of *Acta Chimica Slovenica*



Thanks to previous editorial teams, Editors-in-Chief, Advisory Board members and to devoted Slovenian chemists, *Acta Chimica Slovenica* (ACSi) is today a leading Slovenian journal in the broad field of chemistry. A lot of effort has been invested over the years to increase the quality of the journal and to make it internationally recognized. Previous Editorials summarize all the important achievements, milestones and people in the history of ACSi, who deserve thanks for this. It is not my intention to repeat all that in order not to miss even the smallest merit. In the extremely competitive field of scientific publishing, *Acta Chimica Slovenica* has an impact factor fluctuating around 1 and attracts contributions of scientists from Slovenia and abroad. From its inception, ACSi was a venue publishing mostly research works of Slovenian chemists, but it later developed into an international journal that nowadays publishes more articles contributed by foreign scientists. The interest of the latter to publish in ACSi has increased tremendously and along with that also the working load of the Associate Editors. In the first half of 2018, we have received almost 400 manuscripts, out of which around 80% are sent back to the authors already at the first stage of the reviewing process because they do not fulfill technical requirements of the journal or, which is more seldom, do not fit in the scope of the journal. This tells clearly that in order to keep the high level and regular appearance of the journal, the team of Associate Editors, together with reviewers and authors, has to work devotedly.

I would like to share some news about activities and changes in ACSi that happened since I took over as the Editor-in-Chief (EiC) in January 2018. Due to high costs of printing and limited financial funds, we had to stop with the production of hard copy issues of the journal. Now the journal is available only as an on-line version, except for issues dedicated to prominent Slovenian and other scientists; these will still be delivered also in a limited number of printed copies. At the same time we have introduced e-mail alerts of new issues that are distributed to members of the Slovenian Chemical Society and to all authors of manuscripts in that issue. Hopefully, such alerts will have a positive effect on the popularity and reading of the journal and will fill the gap that appeared after omitting hard copies.

In an effort to help authors to prepare better manuscripts we have updated Author Guidelines and we invite all to read them carefully before submitting your papers to ACSi. In strive for high quality of our journal, the most important concern of the Associate Editors and also of the authors themselves should be publishing original, innovative and high impact research. This requires competent and diligent reviewers, who freely devote their time to review the manuscripts and thus help authors and editors to produce better papers. We are truly indebted to the reviewers, as we know that reviewing is the critical and most time consuming step in this process. I take this opportunity to invite members of the Editorial and Advisory Boards of ACSi to help the Associate Editors in this task, if they are asked for advice or appraisal of contributions to the journal. With their comprehensive scientific experiences they can only enrich the magazine.

In addition to publishing Reviews, Scientific and Technical Articles and Short Communications, we have introduced a new type of contributions, Feature Articles (FAs), which are written on invitation of the editorial team. They should report on the latest activity of the author and his/her research group bearing the broad scope of ACSi in mind. The present issue of *Acta Chimica Slovenica* features a cover picture and the first Feature Article in this category written by our colleague Damjana Rozman and co-authors and offers an opportunity to promote this type of articles

to the readers of *ACSi*. The group of Damjana Rozman has received the award for one of the most excellent research achievements at the University of Ljubljana in 2017 for their work in the field of computational modelling of liver metabolism. We believe that such achievements should be honored and we are pleased that the authors were willing to make this contribution to *ACSi*. The ambition of the Associate Editors team is to have one (or possibly more) Feature Article in each issue. We therefore motivate all authors, readers, reviewers and other members of the scientific community to send short proposals for Feature Articles to the editorial board of *ACSi* for their consideration. At this point, I invite our colleagues from industry to participate as well by reporting on technologically important findings and innovations.

Some of the changes in *ACSi* are yet to happen, hopefully still in 2018. We would like to upgrade the web-page of *ACSi* and make it more contemporary, attractive and user friendly. This part depends on financial funds that have decreased substantially in the last years. *ACSi* is issued by the Slovenian Chemical Society (SCS), through which also the costs of journal production are covered with financial contributions from Slovenian Research Agency, National Institute of Chemistry, Jožef Stefan Institute, Slovenian Faculties, and other beneficiaries. The new president of SCS Albin Pintar is very cooperative in this

respect and understands that fast dissemination of scientific papers using new tools is nowadays the key to success. I hope that with our joint efforts *Acta Chimica Slovenica* will grow in its value and presence in the scientific community.

Finally, I have to say that the activities with which the editorial team of *ACSi* has started in 2018 would not be possible without inputs and hard work of the previous Editors of *ACSi*. Their dedicated work has put *ACSi* on the map of scientific publishing in pure and applied chemistry. Only on such solid foundations can we build on. I would sincerely like to thank the previous EiC Aleksander Pavko, for helping me do the first steps as the EiC and mediating to me his rich experience in editorship. Without his continuous help and encouragement my beginning would definitely be more difficult, so as without the always timely support of our administrative assistant Marjana Albreht Gantar and technical editor Stanislav Oražem. At the same time the group of Associate Editors of *ACSi* is really excellent and teaches me all what I do not know yet in the field of scientific publishing. Our common goal is to further improve *Acta Chimica Slovenica* through your help as well.

Ksenija Kogej
Editor-in-Chief
June 20, 2018
