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Message from the New Editor

This issue of the *Chemical Information Bulletin* (CIB) is the first one I am involved in as editor of this publication. It has been a steep learning curve for me, as I had to go through the whole process of putting together an issue, not being familiar with many of the technical details that had to be taken into account. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to two people from the CINF division: Cathy Misner, the former assistant editor of CIB, has introduced me to every step of preparing this issue and to the whole process of publishing it; Helen Yun, the Business Manager of CINF, has helped me with managing the ads and advising me on other issues. I would like to express my gratitude to the University of Maryland Libraries, for supporting my activity as editor of the Bulletin.

In shaping the editorial policy, content, and format of CIB, I will rely significantly on my past experience as editor of the ACS employee newsletter, *The Phoenix*. When I volunteered to salvage it from falling into obscurity, I did not expect to remain its editor for five years. Although *The Phoenix* was aimed at a different audience, there were some features in it that can be "transplanted" to this publication. For example, sharing information about future and past conferences is a column that I am planning to include in the Bulletin, starting from this issue. On p. 7 you will be able to read an article about a chemoinformatics conference organized by the German Chemical Society that took place last November in Goslar, Germany.

Many years ago, the essays published by Eugene Garfield in the *Current Contents* fascinated me so much that I became their ardent reader and even translated and published some of them in another language. I still remember essays like "Are You What You Wear?", "What Do You Do for a Living?", "I Never Forget a Face," "It's a Small World After All" and many others that I have discussed with friends and colleagues on many occasions. The essays were a great educational experience for many scientists and information specialists, whose professional and even personal lives were influenced by them. At least in my case, these essays played a major role in my gradual gravitation from the lab bench to the world of chemical information. I think it is worth looking at Dr. Garfield's essays and the topics he chose to write about as an example of how diverse the interests of information scientists could be.

There will be no greater reward for me as editor of this publication than to know that readers are looking forward to receiving the next issue of the *Chemical Information Bulletin*. I would like to invite all CINF members to consider submitting information about future and past conferences, seminars, new technologies, or any other information that may be of interest to us as a community.

I look forward to hearing from you, so that we could make this publication not only useful but also interesting to read.

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