

# Chemical Information Bulletin, Volume 61, Number 1, Spring 2009

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



Last year the Division lost its long-time member and historian, Val Metanomski, who passed away in December. It is a big loss for CINF and for Chemical Abstracts Service, as Val was not only the most knowledgeable person about the history of CINF, but also has made significant contributions in other areas of

chemical information. In addition to an obituary for Val, we are paying tribute to him by having his picture on the cover of this issue and by including memoirs from people who knew him.

In past issues, we have interviewed people whose professional careers have been related to chemistry, chemical information, or scientific publishing. This issue of the *Chemical Information Bulletin (CIB)* is oriented toward profiling members of the Chemical Information Division (CINF) who have been elected or appointed to new positions.

We are including not only a profile (p. 7), but also an interview with Bill Town (p. 16) who was appointed chair of CINF's Publications Committee. Bill is sharing with us some pictures that he took during his many travels. We are happy that Bruce Slutsky, who has played many different roles in CINF, has been appointed assistant editor of the *Bulletin*, and we are including a profile of Bruce on p. 8.

Bruce replaces Joe Magee who served as assistant editor of *CIB* for two years. I would like to thank Joe for his valuable contributions, his interesting ideas, and all the other work he has done on the *Bulletin*. I valued his honest opinions that have saved us from making mistakes. Technical Programming has a new chair—Rajarshi Guha—who has taken over the most difficult (in my opinion) job in CINF. He is providing some insights of the technical program for the next ACS National Meeting in Salt Lake City. I am sure many readers will see an interesting perspective of this area in our "exit interview" with Leah Solla, Rajarshi's predecessor as chair of Technical Programming.

We hope that the content of this issue will make a good reading. In the next few months we will be working toward transitioning *CIB* from print to online. Please send us opinions about the *Bulletin* and suggestions about what you would like to see in it.

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Please feel free to contact me if you would like more information about supporting the CINF.

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