

Green Chemistry Letters and Reviews: The Natural Evolution of Green Chemistry
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It is astounding to see the progress that has been made in the relatively short lifespan of the field of Green Chemistry. In just the time since Green Chemistry was crystallized as a cohesive area of endeavor we have seen it emerge in several dimensions.

- Breadth – While it was not so long ago that Green Chemistry was only associated with organic synthesis or perhaps catalysis, we are now seeing that all aspects of chemistry, biochemistry, material science and much more have made major advances in Green Chemistry and have active research and development initiatives that are emerging. The breadth of Green Chemistry is not, however, merely founded in the science but also in the application of that science. Rather than simply being restricted to the traditional chemical industry, now all industry sectors that use chemistry, which are as broad as pharmaceuticals, agriculture, automotive, electronics, and textiles have not only discovered Green Chemistry but also are exploiting its innovation for commercial advantage.
- Depth – During the emergence of the field of Green Chemistry, it was not uncommon to identify THE research group working on a particular problem or field of investigation. Now, each of the great scientific questions and challenges facing Green Chemistry has communities of research teams from wide-ranging institutions addressing them. We now see thriving communities on topics including C-H activation, polymer degradation, catalytic coupling, supercritical fluids, ionic liquids, computational molecular design, bioenergy, and so much more.
- Geography – While it is true that the early years of Green Chemistry may have been populated with a small number of people in a few industrialized nations, the face of Green Chemistry has changed to include outstanding actions all around the world. Rapid growth taking place in South America, India, China, and Africa in recent years has shown the importance of Green Chemistry to all contexts and all circumstances where chemistry has the potential to improve people's lives.

These developments should be expected in any field based around an idea whose time has come. We have seen similar trends in other fields as they emerge both within chemistry and more broadly. It is for these reasons that Green Chemistry Letters and Reviews is part of the evolution of Green Chemistry. The leadership that has been shown by other journals, most notably, the journal Green Chemistry by the Royal Society of Chemistry, cannot be overstated. With leading figures such as Prof. Martyn Poliakoff and Prof. Walter Leitner at the helm of the journal, it has blazed an important path that has been and continues to be an essential part of the field of Green Chemistry. Much as the field of Green Chemistry has grown and expanded, the journal Green Chemistry Letters and Reviews seeks to provide new outlets that will complement, rather than duplicate the good work of existing journals.

The new journal will focus on Reviews and Letters:

Reviews – With the expansion of Green Chemistry research taking place at such a rapid rate, it is more necessary than ever to have a place where a survey of those important topics can be published. This journal hopes to attract these reviews to aid researchers in understanding the state of the science on important topics.

Letters – It is essential in a fast moving field to have results as rapidly available in the open literature as possible. While full papers serve an important and essential purpose, having letters that communicate clearly and concisely the most time sensitive results is a service this journal seeks to advance.

A special aspect of the journal is the ability to interactively discuss the papers with the authors. Upon publication, electronic bulletin board/chat rooms will be established to allow direct and public correspondence with authors regarding their published work. We believe that this feature will provide a conduit between the teaching and research communities to see the journal as a living and interactive textbook. Details of the mechanisms and shape of this innovative forum will be forthcoming.

The journal will be divided into three topic areas, knowing very well that many times these areas cross over into one another. The areas are research, education and industrial implementation. We are fortunate enough to have leaders in these areas assisting with the journal. Dr. Julie Haack has distinguished herself as a pioneer in building the Green Chemistry educational community – GEMS, faculty training, Green Chemistry Education Network (GCEdNet). Dr. Carles Esteves from IUCT in Barcelona Spain has pioneered a business model that advances Green Chemistry in industry by working with over 200 companies to implement practical and profitable Green Chemistry solutions. Dr. Paul Anastas needs no introduction to the field. His leadership from the beginning has provided the inspiration and many of the tools responsible for bringing Green Chemistry to where it now is today.

It is quite an exciting time in the sciences. We look forward to working with old friends, current colleagues and many new individuals and groups in the years ahead.