Science of Synthesis News

April 2003

In this issue…

Welcome from the Managing Director

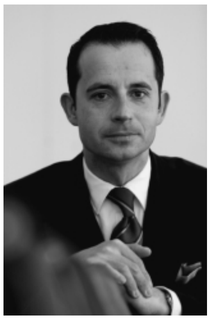
Dear Reader,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the spring edition of the *Science of Synthesis* News.

The electronic version of *Science of Synthesis* has been launched and many scientists already have access. They use *Science of Synthesis* for their daily research and benefit from the knowledge generated by hundreds of authors. BASF was one of the first companies to provide their chemists with *Science of Synthesis.* This issue of the *Science of Synthesis* News gives you some of the details.

At the beginning of the year we received the very sad news that Professor Heinz Kropf had died. Heinz Kropf had a long association with the Thieme publishing house since the early seventies serving as a member of the editorial board and author of Houben–Weyl. I was in frequent contact with Heinz Kropf and his vast experience as an editor and his impressive knowledge as a chemist will be missed. The many volumes of Houben–Weyl, found in all the leading libraries of the world, are a legacy to Heinz Kropf's achievements as an editor and chemist. Professor Ernst Schaumann, member of the editorial boards of Houben–Weyl and *Science of Synthesis,* has contributed an obituary to this *Science of Synthesis* News.

The editorial office has received many positive messages and lots of encouragement for the *Science of Synthesis* news. It is perceived to be an important communication forum for the hundreds of scientists involved in *Science of Synthesis.* Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have suggestions about the *Science of Synthesis* news (Dr. Katharine Bray, katharine.bray@thieme.de) or if your institution would like to have access to the electronic version of *Science of Synthesis* (Dr. Norbert Kummer, norbert.kummer@thieme.de).



Guido F. Herrmann
Managing Director
Thieme Chemistry

Editorial Update

M. Fiona Shortt de Hernandez, Managing Editor
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Publication Schedule

Last year the editorial team helped to publish five *Science of Synthesis*/Houben–Weyl volumes, which involved working with over 174 authors. This year the editorial team is planning to publish six *Science of Synthesis* volumes:

- Volume 3: Compounds of Groups 12 and 11 (Zn, Cd, Hg, Cu, Ag, Au) – O'Neil/Ley
- Volume 13: Five-Membered Hetarenes with Three or More Heteroatoms – Storr/Shinkai
- Volume 14: Six-Membered Hetarenes with One Chalcogen – Thomas
- Volume 15: Six-Membered Hetarenes with One Nitrogen or Phosphorus Atom – Black/Regitz
- Volume 16: Six-Membered Hetarenes with Two Identical Heteroatoms – Y. Yamamoto/Shinkai
- Volume 17: Six-Membered Hetarenes with Two Unlike or More than Two Heteroatoms and Fully Unsaturated Larger-Ring Heterocycles – Weinreb/Schaumann

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Ernst Schaumann and Reinhard Brückner Visit Editorial Office

Please note that a new publication schedule for the entire *Science of Synthesis* series has been produced (January 2003) and is available now on the Web site (www.science-of-synthesis.com).

In addition we are in the process of completing the Houben–Weyl E 22 peptide and peptidomimetic series. Houben–Weyl E 22 c was published in December last year and we are now finishing the last 'content' volume in the series, Houben–Weyl E 22 d, which is scheduled for publication at the end of April. We expect to be able to display the entire series at the American Peptide Society meeting in Boston later this year.

Editorial Office Activities

A freelancers' meeting was held in Stuttgart in December 2002. Nine members of the freelance editorial team attended from Germany and Britain. It was extremely productive having both the freelance and in-house team together with the opportunity to review achievements and discuss possible improvements to editorial policies and procedures.

Leigh Murray will introduce our new workflow chart in this edition of the newsletter. We are continually looking at ways of improving our systems so that we can provide a better service to our authors and editors. This process flow chart has been produced to help our authors and editors gain an overview with regard to our editorial procedures, and to know which timelines to take into account for the receipt and correction of proofs.

We have revised the *Science of Synthesis* Web site significantly over the last few months and we now feature special articles on each of the new volume editors who get involved with the project. The 'For Authors' section has been completely revamped and provides valuable query specific contact information.

Members of the team will be attending various international conferences over the next few months. The first big meeting this year is the 225th American Chemical Society meeting in New Orleans to which I was invited by Erja Kajosalo, MIT, USA, to discuss the conversion of *Science of Synthesis*/Houben–Weyl from a print product into an electronic product at the chemical information forum "Last wave? Reference books go digital". Please let us know if you also plan to attend any of the conferences given on the Web site as members of the team would be more than happy to meet with you and discuss your contribution.

Visitors

Professor Albrecht Salzer (Institut für Anorganische Chemie, Aachen, Germany) visited

Volume 30 Editor, Junzo Otera, Visits Editorial Office

the editorial office in January to give the second part of his organometallics nomenclature seminar to the editorial team.

Professor Ernst Schaumann (editorial board member) and Professor Reinhard Brückner (volume editor: Volume 25) also paid a visit to the editorial office in January to discuss their upcoming volume in detail.

Professor Junzo Otera (volume editor: Volume 30) visited the editorial office in February and had a chance to meet with the team and become familiar with our editorial procedures and production processes.

Team News


Claire Twomey – New Assistant Scientific Editor

We are very pleased that Claire Twomey joined the editorial team in January as an assistant scientific editor. Her background includes a B.Sc. degree in Chemistry from the University College Cork, Ireland in 1998 and a Ph.D. in organic chemistry at University College Cork (under the guidance of Professor A. R. Maguire).

Dr. Karen Muirhead was promoted to the position of senior scientific editor on March 1st, 2003. Karen joined the team three years ago as an assistant scientific editor and has worked extremely hard along with her colleagues to help our authors and editors produce top quality volumes.


Karen Muirhead, Senior Scientific Editor

Spotlight

I am very pleased to introduce Professor João Valdir Comasseto who will give us an insight into the current status of chemistry in Brazil.

Science of Synthesis: Workflow Chart

Leigh Murray, Production Coordinator

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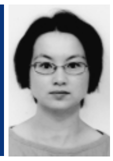


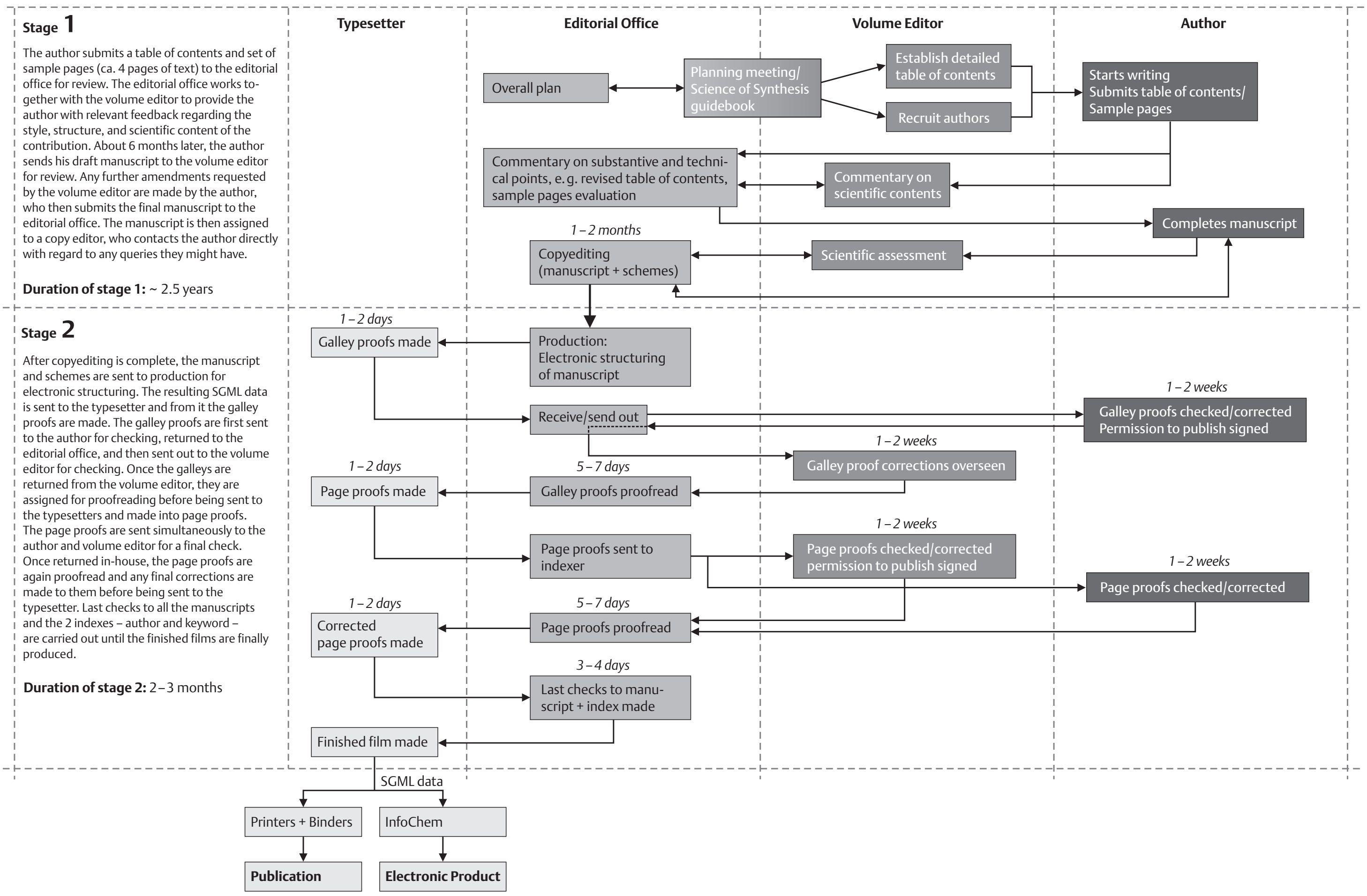
The following workflow chart provides an overview of the various stages and parties involved in the publication of a *Science of Synthesis* volume.

The overall process can be divided into two stages, where the first stage takes about two-and-a-half years and principally involves close collaboration between the editorial office, volume editor, and author in preparing the author's contribution. Once submitted, the contribution (text and drawings) is assigned for copyediting, which can take around 1–2 months.

The second stage is concerned with the typesetting of the galley proofs, page proofs, corrected page proofs, and finished films. The author and volume editor will have two opportunities to view the contribution and make any necessary changes to the work at the galley and page proof stages. This second stage takes on average 2–3 months to complete.

This workflow chart is also available as a pdf to download and print off from the Authors' Homepage of the *Science of Synthesis* Web site (www.science-of-synthesis.com).

Workflow Chart for Science of Synthesis



Spotlight – Chemistry in Brazil

João Valdir Camasseto, Volume 8 Author
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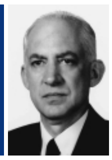

Historical Background

Brazil, a 8.5 million km^2 country situated in South America with about 180 million people, is known mainly for its football and carnival. Few people know that Brazil is also the tenth economy of the planet and that it hosts the ninth chemical industrial complex of the world. However, the Brazilian industry, especially the chemical industry, is relatively young. One can say that it was only after the 1950s, due to an initiative of President Kubitscheck, the founder of Brazilia, that Brazil entered the industrial era. To support these industrial activities, the existence of good universities is crucial, despite this the first Brazilian university, the University of São Paulo, was founded only in 1934. As a consequence of the political and racial persecutions in those days in Europe several great European scientists accepted the invitation to join the new university. One of the scientists who accepted to come to Brazil was Professor Heinrich Rheinboldt, Bonn University. Rheinboldt's school had a deep influence in the development of chemistry in Brazil and many chemistry departments can trace their origins back to Rheinboldt's group. However, until the 1960s the development of chemistry in Brazil was slow. During the 1970s several new federal universities were founded and now every state of the federation (24 states) has at last one federal university, besides several state and private universities. Nowadays, in all these institutions chemistry plays an important role.

At the end of the 1960s governmental authorities became convinced that chemistry in Brazil had to be modernized in order to become competitive at an international level, so as to meet the needs resulting from an explosive industrial and economic developments. In 1968 the Brazilian National Research Council/USA-National Science Foundation Program was created, aimed at bringing to Brazil advanced research competence in selected areas of chemistry considered of great importance for the industrial development of the country. Professor Carl Djerassi was the head of the team that introduced modern chemistry in Brazil. The Universities of São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro were chosen to host the program due to their better material conditions and human resources. Thanks to Djerassi's dynamic action, a number of best American scientists of that time joined the program, among them Henry Taube, George Hammond, and William Johnson, visited the Chemistry Institute of the São Paulo University several times for courses and lectures, sending former students of their groups to stay for a couple of years, in order to transfer the experience of their universities to the Brazilian laboratories. At the same time, with the support of FAPESP, the research council of the São Paulo State, a similar program in biochemistry was settled at the Chemistry Institute of the São Paulo University.

Present Status of the Chemical Research in Brazil

Along the two decades after the end of these programs (1980) chemistry in Brazil had a fantastic development, with intensive programs of postdoctoral stays for young Brazilian scientists in North America and Europe, bringing to Brazil new ideas and experiences. In 1978 the Brazilian Chemical Society was founded and now it has about 3000 associates who work in the most diverse fields of the chemical research. The society edits three journals, two of them in Portuguese dedicated to the diffusion of chemistry, and the Journal of the Brazilian Chemical Society published in English dedicated to publish original research papers (www.sbq.org.br). The annual meeting of the Brazilian Chemical Society takes place every year in June with about 2300 attendees.

The graduate students in chemistry are concentrated in the public universities (federal and state), and the number of graduate students has grown from 875 in 1983 to 3208 in 2000. The number of last year Master and Ph. D. students is increasing rapidly as shown in Figure 1.

The results of their research work are published in first line journals and achieve standards that are internationally recognized. Figure 2 shows the evolution in the number of publications along the last 20 years.

The University of São Paulo continues to be the most important research center in Brazil. This university has about 70 000 undergraduate and graduate students and 4750 faculty members, distributed in six campuses in different cities of the São Paulo State. The chemistry institute of the capital campus is about 40 000 m^2 large and hosts laboratories dedicated to organic synthesis, organometallic chemistry, natural products chemistry, spectroscopy, electrochemistry, environmental chemistry, colloid chemistry, and molecular biology. Recently, the institute settled an ambitious program in genomics, which is sequencing the genetic code of several microorganisms responsible for important diseases in Brazil. The modern analysis center of the institute gives support to the scientific activities listed above and to industries. The library of the institute, with 32 767 books and

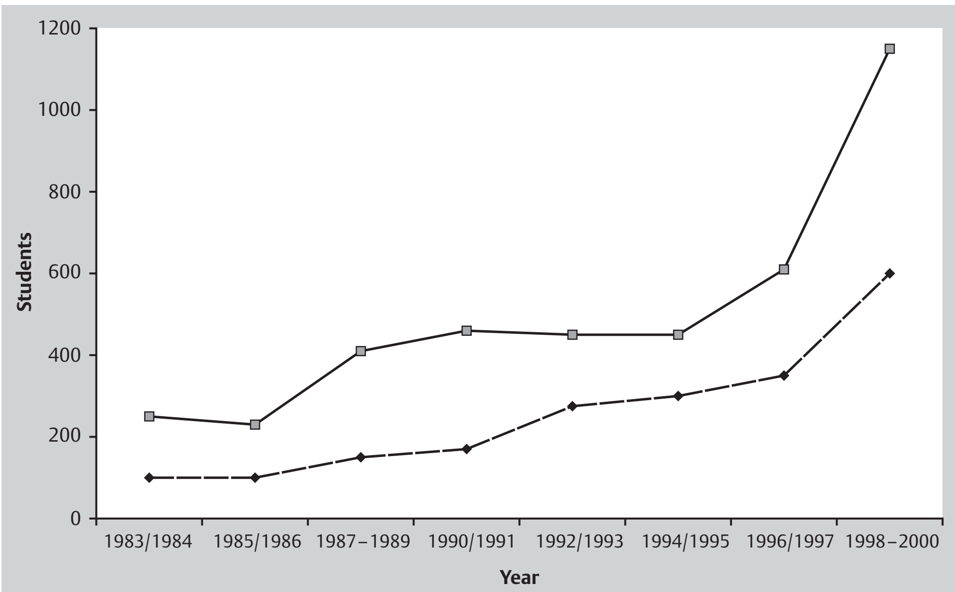

Figure 1 Amount of Master and Ph.D. Students

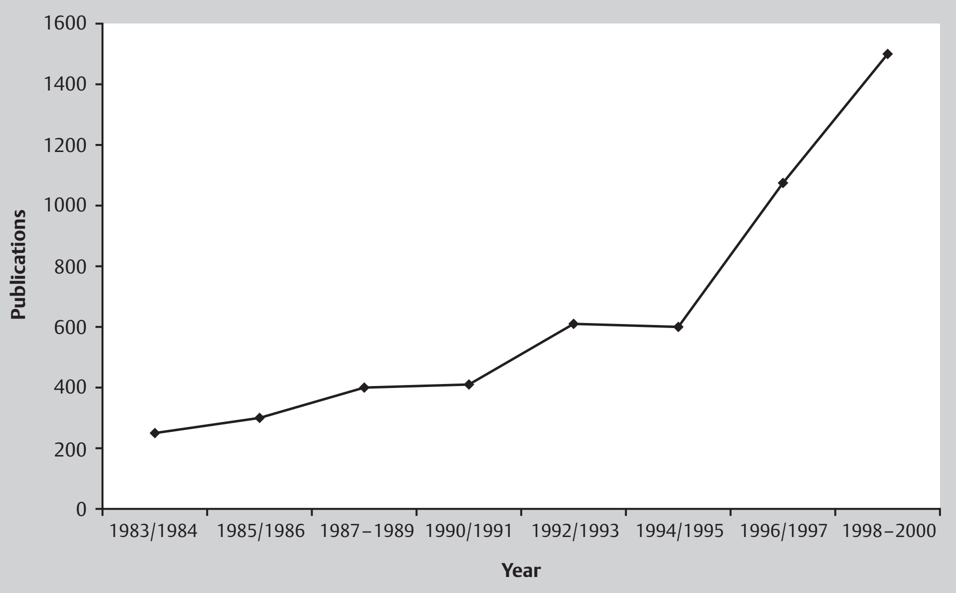

Figure 2 Evolution of Publications

complete collections of 903 journals, is the central chemistry library in Brazil. Besides São Paulo University, several other important Brazilian Universities are dedicated to research in chemistry, among them the University of Campinas at the São Paulo State and Federal University of Rio de Janeiro.

Organic Synthesis

Concerning organic synthesis, most of the groups are located at the University of São Paulo, University of Campinas, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, and Federal University of Santa Maria. The laboratories at these universities are dedicated to organometallic chemistry, catalysis, asymmetric synthesis, synthesis of natural products, and synthetic methodologies. Since 1987, every two years an international meeting, dedicated to organic synthesis, takes place in Brazil with about 350 attendees, mainly from South America. The conferences are given by local scientists and by outstanding synthetic organic chemists from Europe, Japan, and North America. These meetings are organized in a very informal way so as to facilitate the contact between local scientists, students, and the visitors. As a result many joint projects are born during the meetings and a number of young scientists establish contacts for postdoctoral studies abroad. This year the meeting will take place in Aguas de São Pedro at the São Paulo State (www.bmos.iqm.unicamp.br).

Chemical Industry

The Brazilian chemical industry is the ninth of the world, with an annual income of US$ 44 billion in 2000 and US$ 38 billion in 2001 (the income of the petrochemical industry is not included in this amount). The main segments of the chemical industry in Brazil are the production of commodities for the industry, pharmaceuticals, agrochemicals, fertilizers, cosmetics, and detergents. Most of the production of the chemical industry is for internal consummation. In 2002 only US$ 4 billion were exported. Research in the industry is still incipient and so is the interaction between academia and the industry.

Conclusion

Research in chemistry in Brazilian Universities reached an international level and it is prepared to give support to the Brazilian Chemical Industry, which must invest more aggressively in R&D to become internationally more competitive.

Sales News

Norbert Kummer, Sales Director
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Staff News

Yvonne Diebold joined the Sales team in Stuttgart on the 21 October 2002 as sales assistant. She will be involved in all aspects of internal sales support for *Science of Synthesis* and Pharmaceutical Substances. She will be also involved in the sale of Thieme's online products and all aspects of licensing and administration. Yvonne has a degree in business economics, with her main focus on marketing.

Yvonne Diebold – New Sales Assistant

BASF New *Science of Synthesis* User

BASF, Ludwigshafen Germany, the biggest chemical company worldwide signed the global agreement for ongoing subscription to the electronic version of *Science of Synthesis,* Houben–Weyl, and Römpp.

After a four week period of testing the software, there was absolutely no question about the quality of the data, it is clear that BASF sees the information in *Science of Synthesis* as a necessary tool for the future challenges and competition in developing new chemical compounds. As central part of their chemical intranet solution *Science of Synthesis* will play a major role in chemical synthesis information.

BASF documentation department is one of the biggest and toughest in the chemical industry. Always being at the cutting edge in using new search tools and the most modern technology to support the scientists with information. BASF has one of the biggest CD-ROM archives in the world with more than 20 million complete patent documents.

Their intranet system, Blitz, offers to their end users a variety of different databases with chemical information and Dr. Gabriele Kupprat, head of the library, was happy that *Science of Synthesis* would be integrated, with the help of Infochem, into their internal intranet offering. The BASF Group Information Center together with the library, located in Ludwigshafen, is responsible for information management of the BASF Group throughout the world. They combine extensive skills in all aspects of information management with technical competence across the scientific disciplines.

Inauguration of New BASF Library

So it was a great opportunity that *Science of Synthesis* could be presented to more than 200 scientists on the occasion of the celebration of the inauguration of the new BASF library in February. Many questions and a long discussion at the end of the presentation showed a deep interest in the information content of *Science of Synthesis* from the BASF scientists.

BASF Research Verbund

With over 8000 employees worldwide, the BASF Research Verbund is the engine of innovation. BASF does not have a single central research department. Their research group is made up of the central technology platforms in Ludwigshafen, R&D units at group companies, R&D subsidiaries, interests in start-up companies, and approximately 800 cooperative agreements with universities, research institutes, and industrial partners. So as a result BASF has one of the largest research networks in the world and one of the most successful.

New processes, new products, new markets are the three elements that have made BASF one of the world's leading chemical companies. BASF's product innovations involve developing new chemical structures and applying existing chemical knowledge in new applications with the objective to find novel solutions by drawing on the innovative potential of chemistry.

In 2001 BASF Future Business GmbH was established, with a view to opening up new business areas even more rapidly and efficiently. The new company focuses on areas in which BASF has expertise but are outside the scope of BASF's existing operations. These areas rely on innovative chemistry as a key factor for success. Innovations are a decisive tool for BASF when it comes to shaping a promising and a profitable future.

In 2001 BASF invested about 1.2 billion € in R&D and is among the top five companies in Europe for patent applications. Its product line comprises of high-value-added chemicals, plastics, colorants and pigments, dispersions, automotive and industrial coatings, crop-protection agents, fine chemicals, oil and gas. Its sales reached 32.5 billion € in 2001.

One of the major strengths of BASF is their distinctive approach to integration, known in German as "Verbund". By managing know-how according to the Verbund principle, BASF is enhancing its innovative power and can respond quickly and flexible to the requirements made by the markets and by its customers. BASF considers its business partners to be partners in the Verbund.

Obituary – Professor Heinz Kropf

Ernst Schaumann, Editorial Board

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Heinz Kropf, 76, retired professor of organic chemistry at the University of Hamburg, died on January 9th, while on vacation on the North Sea island of Föhr.

Kropf had a long association with the Thieme publishing house serving as editor and author of Houben–Weyl. He got involved in the early seventies when the original editors of the 4th edition were no longer active and together with H.-G. Padeken managed to publish most of the remaining volumes, mainly on oxidation (Vol. IV/1 a) and reduction (Vols. IV/1 c,d), as well as on alcohol synthesis (Vols. VI/1 a,b). Subsequently, Kropf was member of the editorial board of the supplementary volumes of Houben–Weyl (E series), where he edited Volume E13 and coedited the Volumes E15/1–3 on activated C=C bond systems. Kropf's superb gift to organize vast amounts of complex material into a logical and digestible order made him an excellent editor and gave an example for the other members of the board.

The choice of volumes reflects Kropf's interest in oxidation and peroxide chemistry. This interest goes back to his Diplom thesis with G. O. Schenck at the University of Göttingen in 1951 and was continued in the Ph.D. work at the then Institute of Mining in Clausthal (now Technical University of Clausthal) with Heinrich Hock, who is best known for the discovery of the simultaneous synthesis of acetone and phenol from cumene hydroperoxide ('Hock reaction'), but had Kropf work on aldehyde oxidation with peracetic acid. For his habilitation, Kropf continued to work on oxidation reactions, now of hydrocarbons, and became Privatdozent in 1960. Kropf then gathered industrial experience in the German oil industry working in the central laboratory unit of DEA (German Crude-Oil Company). In 1964, Kropf joined the chemistry faculty of the University of Hamburg as lecturer of organic chemistry, and became professor in 1966. During his first years in Hamburg, Kropf also taught Chemical Technology at the University of Kiel.

Until his retirement in 1992, Kropf maintained an active research program mentoring many doctoral students. Throughout his career, Kropf authored and coauthored more than 100 research papers focusing on the chemistry of organic peroxides and on catalysis of oxidation reactions by phthalocyanines. Kropf also held seven patents. In 1990, his work was honored by the Marin-Drinov medal of the Bulgarian Academy of Science.

VIP (Volumes in Progress)

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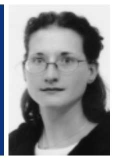

Volume 29, Acetals: Hal/X and O/O, S, Se, Te

Stuart Warriner is at 30 the youngest of all the volume editors. Stuart had a rather nomadic childhood moving from Chesham to Wolsingham in County Durham and then onto Leicester where he studied for his A' Levels.

After his A' Levels Stuart moved to Churchill College, Cambridge, to study Natural Science. Stuart's flair for chemistry led him to take up a Ph.D. with Professor Steve Ley researching diacetal protecting groups and their application in oligosaccharide synthesis. After his Ph.D. Stuart moved to the Université catholique de Louvain at Louvin-la-Neuve in Belgium, where not only did he improve his chemistry, by working under Professor Istvan Markó on asymmetric Diels–Alder reactions and radical rearrangements, he also improved his French.

Stuart moved to Leeds in 1998 to take up the position of senior research fellow, where he began research into templated reactions and solid phase saccharide synthesis, an idea, so I am told, he came up with while he was still a postgraduate. To date his group has successfully synthesized small saccharides by this method, and hopefully bigger polysaccharides will be synthesized by this method in the future. Stuart is also working on the development of new asymmetric catalysts.

Since he has been in Leeds Stuart has taken up many different roles within the department, he was appointed safety officer for the organic research labs, but more notable is his role as star striker for the Nelson–Warriner lab 5-a-side football team during the inter-chemistry football tournament for the past three summers, and last summer helping us to win the competition (for those of you that don't know, I worked in the Nelson group and played on the football team).

Stuart's main interests outside of chemistry are improving his French and playing the soprano cornet in the Otley brass band.

Steve V. Ley is the responsible editorial board member for *Science of Synthesis* Volume 29

Volume 25, Aldehydes and Heteroatom Analogues

Reinhard Brückner was born in 1955 in Braunschweig. He was raised in Darmstadt, and studied chemistry at the Ludwig-Maximilians University of Munich. He acquired his doctoral degree under the supervision of Professor Rolf Huisgen. After postdoctoral work with Professor Paul Wender at Stanford University, Reinhard Brückner returned to Germany in 1985, becoming an assistant professor at the Philipps University of Marburg. In 1991, he was appointed associate professor at the Julius-Maximilians University of Würzburg. He then became a full professor first at the Georg-August University of Göttingen (1992) and then at his current position, which is the Albert-Ludwigs University of Freiburg, since 1998.

Reinhard Brückner's research interests are in the total synthesis of natural products, and the synthesis of biologically active analogues thereof, and – in the context of this work – the development of efficient synthetic methodology. He contributed to the synthesis of dienediyne models of the anti-cancer agent neocarzinostatin chromophore, the generation of skipped polyols by his group's 'lactone strategy' (currently being extended to the total synthesis of polyol, polyene antibiotics), the synthesis of γ-chiral butanolides and butenolides from β,γ-unsaturated esters, and the stereoselective synthesis of γ-alkylidenebutenolides ranging from xerulin to carotenoids. Early on in his career Reinhard Brückner investigated both Wittig and thia-Wittig rearrangements. From then on he has always been interested in synthetically useful rearrangements of organalkali compounds, retro-[1,4]-Brook rearrangements being the most recent reaction investigated.

Reinhard Brückner is an established author with 100 publications to his credit. He has written two books. One of which won him the Literature Prize of the Foundation of the German Chemical Industry (1998) and has been translated both into French ('Mécanismes Réactionnels en Chimie Organique', DeBoeck Université) and English ('Advanced Organic Chemistry', Harcourt/Academic Press). Reinhard Brückner was awarded the Karl-Winnacker Stipend, the Chemistry Prize of the Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Göttingen, and the Society of Synthetic Organic Chemistry Japan Lectureship. He was a visiting professor at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and at the Universidade de Santiago de Compostela, Spain. Currently, Reinhard Brückner serves as an elected peer reviewer of the German Research Foundation and is the vice-president of the Division of Organic Chemistry of the German Chemical Society.

Ernst Schaumann is the responsible editorial board member for *Science of Synthesis* Volume 25.

Personal News

Houben–Weyl author Professor Victor J. Hruby (University of Arizona) received the 2002 Cathay Award during the 7th Chinese Peptide Symposium, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to peptide science. The award is sponsored by the H. H. Liu Educational Foundation.

Dr. Peter Wipf (Pittsburgh University), Houben–Weyl author, will receive the 2003 International Junior Award in Heterocyclic Chemistry (Katrizky Award). The award will be presented and an award lecture given at the 19th International Congress of Heterocyclic Chemistry in August.

Professor Horst Kessler (TU München), another Houben–Weyl author, receives the Philip Morris Research Award worth 100 000 €, in recognition for his contributions to structure elucidation of proteins by the means of NMR spectroscopy.

Our congratulations go to Angela Huttelmaier (Project Administrator and Controller) on the birth of her son Jannik Tom on 2nd March 2003.

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Marketing News

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By the time you read this newsletter, this year's conference season will have already begun and we might have met at the ACS spring meeting in New Orleans. You may also have had the chance to spend some time with us during the Thieme dinner at Arnaud's Restaurant, which you were invited to earlier this year. But don't worry if you didn't – Thieme Chemistry is present at as many as 15 international conferences this year and we are eager to meet you on at least one of these occasions.

Having published eight volumes to date, offering the long awaited electronic version since December 2002 and having six new volumes in the pipeline for 2003, Thieme Chemistry will be present at most of the meetings, conferences, and symposia that are important for the scientific community, on which the project is based and serves.

To make this presence feasible, my colleague Matthew and me rely upon the support of the editorial office, whose members also assist in our marketing affairs.

As a result of the close cooperation between the marketing and editorial departments within Thieme Chemistry, you will (normally) have the opportunity to meet representatives of both departments at conferences. We regard personal contact to you, our contributors, a prerequisite to maintain our acknowledged high scientific standards. The past few years have shown that international conferences are one of the best means of keeping in touch with you, our editors and authors, a large and growing group that is wide spread around the globe.

You will have a chance to meet us at the Komppa Centenary Symposium in Finland in July, where many lectures will be given by friends of Thieme Chemistry and its projects, such as Erick Carreira, Dieter Enders, Shu Kobayashi, Barry M. Trost, and Hisashi Yamamoto, to name but a few. Whilst at the very same time, Mark Lautens is organising the OMCOS-12 in Toronto, where we will be one of the main sponsors of this extremely important conference for organometallic chemists. Together with Mark and the winner of the famous OMCOS Award we will hold another Thieme dinner. You are invited to have dinner with the plenary and invited speakers, including Thieme affiliates such as Günther Helmchen, Phillip Kocieński, Peter Kündig, and Tien Y Luh, the chair of OMCOS-11 two years ago.

In July we will also be at the American Peptide Symposium in Boston, while in August we will be at the 19th ICHC in Colorado. On both occasions, we will be presenting *Science of Synthesis* and will arrange meetings in an informal atmosphere between you and other experts in their respective fields. At the XVth FECHEM Conference on Organometallic Chemistry in Zürich in August, we will be present and showcasing our products as well as in September, in Vienna at the 10th Blue Danube Symposium on Heterocyclic Chemistry, in New York at the ACS Fall meeting and finally, at the annual meeting of the German Chemical Society in Munich in October.

For our full conference schedule and the exact details, please visit our Web site www.thieme-chemistry.com, where we also provide direct links to the respective homepages.

In addition to being personally present, we have arranged displays and distribution of information material on many other conferences, symposia, and meetings. A listing of these can also be found on the conference page of our Web site.

In case you feel that we have missed an important conference, please send us an e-mail at: marketing@thieme-chemistry.com and we will try to arrange something.

Volume 4 Review

Volume 4, Compounds of Groups 15 (As, Sb, Bi) and Silicon Compounds was reviewed by Professor Hubert Schmidbaur (Anorganisch-Chemisches Institut Technische Universität München, Germany) this year. The review of Volume 4 is printed in Angewandte Chemie (2003) **42,** 715.