Editorial: Greetings from the New Co-Editors

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(Received 3 December 2007; published online 2 January 2008)
[DOI: 10.1063/1.2827989]

It is our pleasure to assume the duties of Co-Editors of *Journal of Physical and Chemical Reference Data* (JPCRD). Mal Chase's many years of service as Editor have left us with some big shoes to fill (it takes two of us to replace him!), but we are committed to maintaining the high quality of papers published in JPCRD.

We will split the technical editorship duties. Allan will shepherd articles primarily in the areas of thermophysical properties of fluids and phase-equilibrium thermodynamics (including the IUPAC-NIST Solubility Data Series). Don will shepherd articles primarily in the areas of thermochemical and chemical kinetic data and of atomic and molecular spectroscopy (including the Atomic Energy Level data publications). Both of us are grateful to be able to draw on the wealth of expertise of our colleagues at NIST and in the wider scientific community. We are also grateful for the support provided by NIST's Measurement Services Division, including Bob Watters (who serves as Co-Editor and as NIST's representative to the JPCRD Management Board) and Linda Diane Decker (who continues to be invaluable as the JPCRD Editorial Assistant). We also thank Mal Chase for leaving the journal in good shape, and for his continuing assistance as we transition into our editorial roles.

While we foresee no radical changes in the course charted for JPCRD by previous Editors, this transition does afford an opportunity to think about enhancements to improve both the quality of the journal and the quality of the journal process for our authors and reviewers.

For the publication process, we are exploring ways to make greater use of the Internet for the submission, review, and editing processes, which may include AIP's web-based Peer X-Press (PXP) system. We have also revised and streamlined our Information for Contributors, which appears in the front of the printed issue.

As for the content of the journal itself, we have recruited new expertise to the Editorial Board (listed on the inside front cover), and we will welcome their guidance about future directions for the journal. We strongly encourage authors to make use of AIP's EPAPS (Electronic Physics Auxiliary Publication Service; see http://www.aip.org/pubservs/epaps.html) to deposit supplementary material. This material could include extensive tables of calculated results that do not justify taking up printed pages, but it could also include additional material such as spreadsheets, databases, or even computer programs that might be useful to readers. For the longer term, we are exploring ways to make the extensive tabular data in many JPCRD articles available in tagged formats, so that it will be more convenient to capture into modeling programs, databases, etc. We are also working on incorporating back issues of JPCRD prior to 1999 (already available as scanned PDFs at http://www.nist.gov/srd/jpcrd.htm) into the AIP online site (http://jpcrd.aip.org).

In all this, our goal is to continue to make JPCRD the premier publication venue for reference data in physics, chemistry, and related fields. By "reference data," we mean critically evaluated and well-documented data and correlations that provide a foundation for the needs of scientists and engineers. While continuing to publish articles in our traditional areas (thermophysical properties, solubility, thermochemistry, spectroscopy, etc.), we are also interested in other areas where "reference data" are needed. Suggestions of fruitful topics and discussion of potential articles are always welcome; our email addresses are given here. General correspondence for the journal should be directed to jpcrd@nist.gov.

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