



Opening Article

Invitation to submit your papers to the Bulletin of the Chemical Society of Japan

Masahiro IRIE

Specially Appointed Professor, Rikkyo University
Editor-in-Chief, *Bulletin of the Chemical Society of Japan*

The *Bulletin of the Chemical Society of Japan (BCSJ)*, the English-language journal of the Chemical Society of Japan (CSJ), was founded in 1926. If you look at other international journals existing today in the field of chemistry from their year of first publication, the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* was founded in 1879, *Helvetica Chimica Acta* in 1918, the *Canadian Journal of Chemistry* in 1929, and the *Australian Journal of Chemistry* in 1948. Accordingly, the *BCSJ* has the third longest publication history in the world. Over this long period of history, Japanese Nobel Prize winners including Professors Fukui, Shirakawa, Noyori, Shimomura, Suzuki and Negishi have had their papers published in the *BCSJ*. Among them, Professor Suzuki submitted 37 papers. In 2007, the *BCSJ* asked more than twenty distinguished professors to write for the commemorative review paper series that was published in commemoration of the 80th anniversary of its foundation.

The Editorial Committee has always strived to maintain and develop this tradition in various ways. Papers are selected for the “BCSJ Award” and “Selected Papers” in each issue, and in particular, contents of the “BCSJ Award Article” are included in each issue of the *Chemistry and Chemical Industry*, while those from “Selected Papers” are shown as Graphical Abstracts on the back cover of the journal. Other revisions include simplifying procedures to permit reprinting of Graphical Abstracts, making Open Access available for BCSJ Award Articles and Account Articles, and having editorial matters (particularly standardization of the names of chemical compounds, wording, etc.) carried out by the Editorial Office. Thus far, J-STAGE’s system has been employed for electronic submissions, screening and the editing of papers; but from October it shall be shifted to “SCHOLARONE Manuscripts,” which is used by both the American Chem-

ical Society and the Royal Society of Chemistry. I am sure the new system will enable easier-to-use electronic submissions.

The *BCSJ* has continued to serve as an international journal publishing full papers and accounts. Its 2010 impact factor was 1.57, which is an index considered relatively good for a Japanese academic journal but unsatisfactory for an international journal. In order to distinguish itself among international journals, the *BCSJ* aims to publish (1) papers with full-text content, not partial content, that are useful to readers; (2) papers containing complete detailed descriptions that may be left for posterity, unlike brief paper forms, which leave details to Supporting Information; (3) comprehensive papers that bring together several brief papers already published and describe their significance; and also (4) featured review papers highlighting specific fields. Such full papers are expected to earn a higher number of citations. So, it is strongly recommended to submit full papers that describe in detailed research backgrounds, experimental methods, and synthesis approaches to the *BCSJ*.

There has been a variety of discussions over English-language Journals published in Japan. I ask for your kind understanding to actively maintain and further improve the *BCSJ* as a prominent international journal in the world of chemistry as well as a base to introduce our country’s original research studies. Any opinions would be appreciated and I would like to invite you to submit your papers to the *BCSJ*.

© 2011 The Chemical Society of Japan

The *Kagaku to Kogyo* (Chemistry & Chemical Industry) Editorial is responsible for the English-translated article.