

## Sixth International Conference on Chemical Structures

This issue of *J. Chem. Inf. Comput. Sci.* contains papers presented at the Sixth International Conference on Chemical Structures. This prestigious meeting takes place at 3-yearly intervals in Noordwijkerhout in The Netherlands, in the first week of June, sponsored by multiple national chemical societies. This journal has published papers from the last four conferences in the series.

This time we feature 16 papers from the 26 papers and 53 posters presented. The oral papers were given in sessions on New Algorithms for Searching Chemical Structures and New Methodologies; Combinatorial Chemistry and Molecular Diversity; Structure–Activity and Structure–Property Relationships; Molecular Modeling and Managing Three-Dimensional Databases; and Synthesis.

The sponsoring societies in 2002 were the Division of Chemical Information of the American Chemical Society, the Chemical Structure Association Trust, the Chemistry-Information-Computer Division of the Society of German Chemists (GDCh), the Division of Chemical Information and Computer Sciences of the Chemical Society of Japan, the Swiss Chemical Society, the Royal Netherlands Chemical Society (KNCV), and the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) Chemical Information Group.

Kimito Funatsu, Johann Gasteiger, Guenter Grethe, Michael Lajiness, Markus Wagener, and Peter Willett who served on the scientific review committee, must take considerable credit for continuing the high standard of technical presentations and discussions that characterized all previous conferences. It was heartening to see that many of the papers came from groups that had not previously been represented at conferences in this series, which emphasizes the increasing breadth and importance of cheminformatics.

Guenter Grethe chaired the organizing committee and Vincent van Geerestein was responsible for the local arrangements. All the organizers are to be congratulated on the continued success of this conference. The seventh meeting in the series will take place at the same venue in June 2005.

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