Preface

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On October 20th, 2008, Osaka Prefecture University (OPU) held a ceremony to award me with a Special Honorary Professorship at the large U-Hall auditorium. On this occasion, I presented a lecture entitled, “Perspectives in Chemistry: From Molecular to Supramolecular Chemistry towards Adaptive Chemistry” to the student body, faculty, staff and outside guests.

After this ceremony and lecture, a special multi-disciplinary symposium was held with selected young researchers from different engineering labs giving lectures on their interesting and excellent work. I was, thus, fortunate to be able to hear the research work carried out in very diverse fields of engineering and the young speakers gave very impressive presentations of their work in English and also replied expertly to my comments and questions afterwards.

The present issue of Research on Chemical Intermediates consists of lectures presented at this special symposium and other contributions from the chemistry fields in this university. They will be of interest to researchers in various fields since so many areas nowadays overlap or require intense collaborative work among various disciplines, so that the readers would find this issue of broad interest.

Osaka Prefecture University is located in Sakai City in the southern part of Osaka which is close to both the ancient capitals of Nara and Kyoto as well as to the Kansai International Airport (KIX). There are about 8,500 students including 1,600 graduate students and the university provides courses and programs in the main disciplines of Engineering, Science, Life and Environmental Sciences, Humanities

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and Social Sciences, Economy, Nursing, Comprehensive Rehabilitation, Liberal Arts and Sciences. I wish to OPU ever greater expansion and success.

I warmly thank OPU for organizing this special day. Please enjoy the present issue.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jean-Denis Ullrich". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.