Message from the new Editor-in-Chief

Longqin (Long) Hu¹

Published online: 13 January 2020

© Springer Science+Business Media, LLC, part of Springer Nature 2020

It is truly a great honor to be selected as the new Editor-in-Chief of *Medicinal Chemistry Research (MCR)*. In the weeks prior to accepting the position, I learned more about the impressive history of the journal that helped solidify my decision. Dr Alfred Burger founded this journal in 1991 and served as its first Editor-in-Chief before passing on the mantle to Dr Richard Glennon. Dr Stephen Cutler then took over as the Editor-in-Chief and ably managed the journal for almost two decades. They are all great visionaries and true pioneers in the field of medicinal chemistry. I am humbled to be in their company. I will strive to adhere to Dr Burger's vision for the journal and the established tradition of rapid publication of high-quality medicinal chemistry research. I hope that *MCR* will become one of the top journals that we seek to publish our most exciting research results in early drug discovery.

I am grateful to Dr Stephen Cutler for his excellent service over the last 18 years. *MCR*'s reputation has grown under his leadership and its impact factor has steadily risen with the most recent impact factor of 1.72 (2018) being its highest to date. This led to a large increase in manuscript submissions and published articles as more researchers recognized the journal as an attractive place to publish their works. Dr Cutler has been very helpful and supportive during the editorial transition. I thank him for what he has done for the journal and wish him the best as he moves on to other exciting endeavors. I also want to thank Dr Christopher McCurdy (Senior Editor) for his service to the journal as he too has decided to move on to other ventures.

I am also grateful to Dr Francisco Leon (University of Florida), who has agreed to stay on as a Senior Editor, and

Drs Paulo Carvalho (University of the Incarnate Word), Young Kim (Bluefield State College), and Anand Sridhar (Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences), who have all agreed to continue to serve as Associate Editors. As I work to recruit new members to our Editorial Board, the current team of Senior and Associate Editors will be sufficient to ensure a smooth transition and continuity at *MCR*.

My vision is for *MCR* to become one of the top journals publishing exciting research in medicinal chemistry, broadly defined. In keeping with previously established goals of *MCR* as "an international journal for rapid communications on design and mechanisms of action of biologically active agents", we will strive to publish cutting edge research in medicinal chemistry and early drug discovery from all over the world. To increase the impact of *MCR* and to help our readers stay on top of their topic areas, we will strategically invite submissions of timely critical review articles from authors who have made significant contributions in the areas they write and review. We will also start soliciting manuscripts for thematic issues and special issues in honor of well-known medicinal chemists who have devoted their careers to advancing medicinal chemistry research. As I learn the ropes of managing the journal, I sincerely welcome any recommendations and suggestions to make *MCR* a better and more impactful journal in the field of medicinal chemistry.

Finally, I want to thank Springer Nature for entrusting me with the responsibilities and the honor of serving as the Editor-in-Chief of *MCR*.

✉ Longqin (Long) Hu
LongHu@pharmacy.rutgers.edu

¹ Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, 160 Frelinghuysen Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854, USA