Editorial

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The COVID-19 pandemic has been disastrous to many of our research scientific colleagues in academia, industry and government. Too many of our friends and colleagues have succumbed to the disease and some have perished in its wake. Our sincerest sympathies and condolences to all families who have lost loved ones.

An added dilemma is that many laboratories have suspended research activities to comply with social separation rules. Of course, in the long run this will save lives. Springer and the editorial staff at the *Journal of Inorganic and Organometallic Polymers and Materials* recognize that the pandemic has already delayed the processing of submitted manuscripts since reviewers too are caught up in the pandemic either by contracting the flu or by having limited access to their offices and the needed technology. We have already seen this with a slower pace of completed reviews and a significantly higher decline rate of invitations to review. That

said, we at the Journal will work our hardest to complete the assignments as quickly as is feasible. We hope that the authors recognize our struggle and will be patient.

For those authors who are still active and well, and wish to help with our manuscript processing program, please let us know so we can add your name to our list of expert advisors. Let us hope and pray that our government leaders have the wisdom and faculties to overcome this human tragedy and work as hard as we are to return to normalcy.

We wish you and your families all the best during this unprecedented time.

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