

***Molecular Diversity* in 2010 and beyond ... going strong**

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It seems like it was only yesterday when the world was excited about entering the new millennium. The past 10 years have been very eventful in the scientific and publishing world. The human genome code was cracked, new biological targets were found, “omic” fields grew dramatically, medicinal chemistry rules were expanded and fine tuned, solid-phase organic synthesis matured while losing popularity, microwave synthesis increased in popularity in many fields and applications, multi-component reactions and diversity-oriented synthesis (DOS) became synergistic with the field of natural products, green chemistry emerged, materials science benefited from parallelization/combichem approaches, computational chemistry solidified its role in structure activity relationships (SAR) and drug design while becoming more accessible and user friendly, journals were born and died, etc.

The list could go on and on, but I would like to bring your attention to how the last 10 years have shaped our journal and where *Molecular Diversity* is going.

Molecular Diversity was originally published in 1995 by ESCOM science publishers, and was one of the first internet free journals (internet version edited by Dr. Michal Lebl—see <http://www.5z.com/moldiv>). In 1997, ESCOM was acquired by Kluwer Academic Publishers and later on Kluwer abandoned the concept of free internet version. Then in 2004 Kluwer merged with Springer-Verlag to become Springer Science+Business Media. From 1995 to 1999, *Molecular Diversity* was edited by Drs. Richard A. Houghten, Walter H. Moos, H. Mario Geysen, Michael R. Pavia, Stuart Kauffman and Jack Szostak (who won a Nobel Prize this year!).

In 2000, the journal was edited by Drs. Richard A. Houghten and Michal Lebl. From 1998 to 2003, the journal was behind schedule, and to catch up with the volume count, 2 years were skipped in 2003 when Dr. Shu-Kun Lin became the Editor-in-Chief. Then, in 2007, I received the honor to be the new Editor-in-Chief.

Between 1995 and 1999, *Molecular Diversity* published 115 articles, and between 2000 and 2009 published 354 articles (including editorials). In 2000 and 2001, the Impact Factors were 2.41 and 4.44, respectively. Then, due to our 3-year publication gap, the Science Citation Index did not cover publications between 2003–2005, and thus our journal lost its Impact Factor. However, in 2008, we regained an Impact Factor of 2.71, and in 2009, it increased to 2.86 (see Fig. 1).

The journal has gone through a couple of strategic changes: (1) not to rely significantly on special issues (2004–2006), and (2) to have a (pro)active Editorial Advisory Board (EAB).

By the end of 2009, our journal expanded its original combinatorial chemistry scope to accommodate the new trends, topics, and research fields that emerged during this past decade. Moreover, with the full support of Springer Science+Business Media, *Molecular Diversity* has established new partnerships, promoted the journal at scientific events, and regained our Impact Factor.

We are entering 2010 and the new decade with a strong manuscript pipeline, an Impact Factor on the rise, a modernized scope, new partners, and a strong editorial and publishing team whose hard work and support not only brought *Molecular Diversity* back to its feet but also transformed it into a much stronger and solidified journal that is here to stay and thrive.

To our EAB, publisher, reviewers, and authors... thank you so much for all your support.

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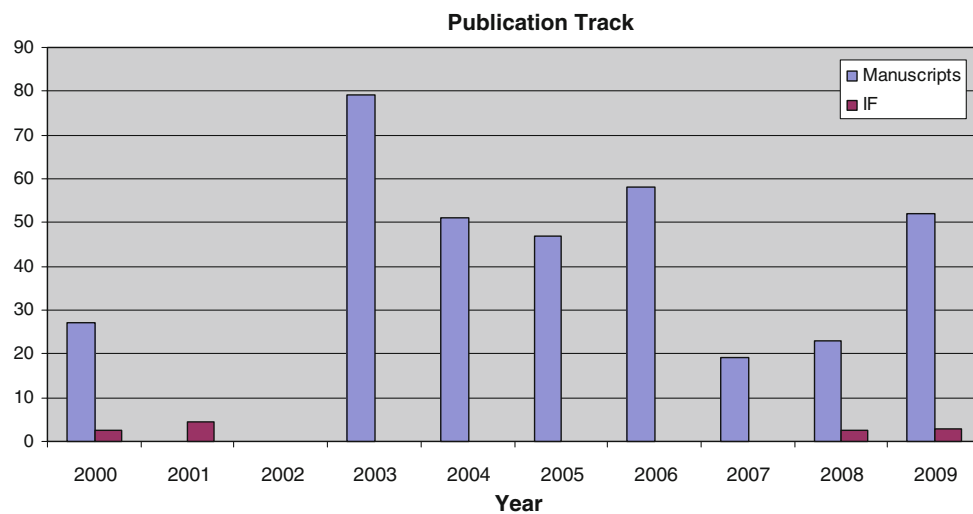


Fig. 1 *Molecular Diversity's* 2000–2009 publication profile (IF, Impact Factor)

And, to our readers..., we hope you continue enjoying our articles and topics. We are here to listen to you and bring you high-impact, top-quality science. And you know what? We're just getting warmed up!

Enjoy the first issue of 2010!

Guillermo A. Morales, Editor-in-Chief