

Preface

Inorganic and Coordination Chemistry is a major branch of chemistry and is an area of growing interest and importance in the chemical community, and in particular, there has been a growing interest in this area owing to the recent rapid developments of coordination chemistry related research in (1) Materials Science, such as in the development of coordination and metal-containing compounds for organic light-emitting diode (OLED) applications, dye-sensitized solar cells and photovoltaics, optoelectronics, single molecule magnets, metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) for hydrogen storage, micro- and mesoporous materials for catalysis, molecular logics and devices; (2) Biomedical Science, such as in the development of biomimetic models of metalloproteins and enzymes, metallodrugs and therapeutic agents, chemical biology, chemo- and biosensors, labels and tags for biomolecules; and (3) Environmental Science and Energy, such as in the development of environmentally benign catalysis, green chemistry, small molecule activation, nitrogen and carbon dioxide fixation, chemosensors, photocatalytic decomposition of pollutants, photovoltaics, photochemical energy storage, fuel cells, hydrogen economy.

This Special Issue is a result of the 6th National Conference on Coordination Chemistry (*cum* International Symposium on Coordination Chemistry) that was held at The University of Hong Kong on 6–9 July 2009.

The National Conference on Coordination Chemistry is the largest and most reputable national conference in the area of Coordination Chemistry held once every four years. The Conference has always been well attended by top leading inorganic and coordination chemists from all over the nation and the 6th National Conference on Coordination Chemistry is no exception. The main objective of the Conference is to provide a forum for inorganic and coordination chemists from all parts of the nation to gather together to present their most recent research findings, and to provide a

stimulating atmosphere to discuss and to exchange ideas on the most frontier research topics in Inorganic and Coordination Chemistry. This is the first time that a national conference of this type has been held in Hong Kong, and this has provided an invaluable opportunity to introduce an international element by incorporation of an International Symposium on Coordination Chemistry into the Conference. The incorporation of the International Symposium into the National Conference has served to bring in internationally renowned inorganic and coordination chemists from all over the world to participate in the national conference and to witness the fast growing development of Coordination Chemistry in China and the region.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the contributors to this issue for their efforts and for their contributions to the success of the issue and the 6th National Conference on Coordination Chemistry (*cum* International Symposium on Coordination Chemistry) in Hong Kong. I would also like to pay tribute to all the coordination chemists, past and present, who have contributed to the success and development of coordination chemistry research and education in China. This special issue is dedicated to all the inorganic and coordination chemists who have contributed significantly to the development of coordination chemistry research and education in China.

I would like to express my gratitude to Professor Xiao-Zeng You and Professor Chi-Ming Che for their strong support in entrusting me to organize the 6th National Conference on Coordination Chemistry in Hong Kong, and Professor Le-Min Li, the Editor-in-Chief of *Science China Chemistry*, for his initiation of the publication and subsequent strong support to the organization of this Special Issue. Professor Hong-Zhe Sun and Dr. Wai Han Lam are also gratefully acknowledged for their kind assistance and efforts in the organization of the conference.

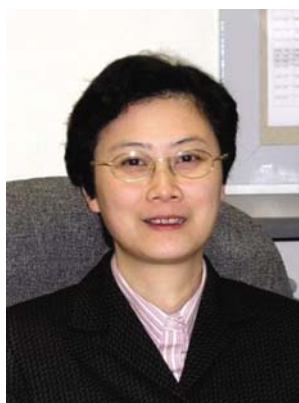
I would like to thank the Croucher Foundation, The University of Hong Kong, all the sponsors, and all the speakers and participants for the strong support to the conference, without which the organization of this conference and the subsequent organization of this Special Issue would not have been possible.

I would also like to thank the editorial members of staff of *Science China Chemistry*, Dr. Chen Fang and Dr. Xiaowen Zhu, for their hard work and efforts on the pro-

duction of this issue, and the reviewers for their critical reviews and invaluable comments.

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Guest Editor, Special Issue on the
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(*cum* International Symposium on Coordination Chemistry)

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Professor Vivian W.-W. Yam obtained her B.Sc.(Hons) degree in 1985 from The University of Hong Kong and her Ph.D. degree in 1988 from the same university under the supervision of Professor Chi-Ming Che on high-valent metal-oxo chemistry. She is currently the Philip Wong Wilson Wong Professor in Chemistry and Energy and Chair Professor of Chemistry there. She was elected to the Member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences since 2001 and Fellow of TWAS, the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World since 2006. She was the recipient of the 2005-06 RSC Centenary Medal, the 2005 State Natural Science Award of PR China, and the first recipient of the Japanese Photochemistry Association (JPA) Lectureship Award (Eikohsha Award) in 2006. She was also 2007 Hong Kong Fulbright Distinguished Scholar and 2000-01 Croucher Senior Research Fellow. Her research interests include the photophysics and photochemistry of transition metal complexes and clusters, supramolecular chemistry, and metal-based molecular functional materials for luminescence sensing, optoelectronics, optical memory and solar energy conversion. She currently serves as the Associate Editor of *Inorganic Chemistry*. She also serves or has served on a number of International Editorial and Editorial Advisory Boards of journals, such as *Coordination Chemistry Reviews*, *Chemical Science*, *ACS Nano*, *Organometallics*, *Dalton Transactions*, *New Journal of Chemistry*, *Journal of Organometallic Chemistry*, *Inorganica Chimica Acta* and others.