

Preface

This issue of *Pure and Applied Chemistry* comprises 12 papers from some of the speakers at the 21st International Congress for Heterocyclic Chemistry, which was held at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia from 15–20 July 2007. The topics of these papers cover some of the major themes of the conference, including natural products synthesis (as highlighted by the presentation of K. C. Nicolaou during his ISHC Senior Award in Heterocyclic Chemistry lecture on the synthesis of complex natural products and further demonstrated by contributions by Profs. Banwell, Bates, Sodeoka, Naito, Vogel, and Pyne); new methods for the synthesis of heterocycles based on metal-catalyzed reactions (Profs. Ma and Mase); and new catalysts for asymmetric synthesis based on chiral heterocyclic ligands (Prof. Nishiyama). Papers on the synthesis of heterocyclic compounds using the borono-Mannich reaction (Prof. Hutton) and green chemistry methods (Prof. Varma) are also included.

I would like to thank all contributors for their timely efforts and the editorial staff for their help.

Stephen Pyne
Conference Editor