



Introducing the renewed *Proceedings*

Welcome to the first issue of the renewed *Proceedings of the Estonian Academy of Sciences*. As you have probably already noticed, the new *Proceedings* is the outcome of a restructuring, which merged together previously issued two series – *Physics & Mathematics* and *Chemistry*. Like its predecessors, the renewed journal focuses on these disciplines. However, our clear intention is to open the *Proceedings* for research papers, scientific commentaries, and review articles from all fields of science represented at the Estonian Academy of Sciences. In practice this means that topics from physical and life sciences, including medicine, to social sciences and humanities will be covered. Besides, we will publish editorials and science policy papers expressing the opinion of the Estonian Academy of Sciences on certain relevant issues. We believe that this intention clearly demonstrates that the restructuring of the *Proceedings* is not simply cosmetic, but will bring along rather comprehensive changes.

We live in a rapidly changing scientific world where the boundaries between sciences, such as they were recognized a few years ago, are dissolving and giving rise to exciting new topics. Through integrating separate series and establishing a more multidisciplinary volume, we can more adequately respond to these changes. We hope that both our authors and readers will welcome this approach. We also acknowledge that this flexibility will put more responsibility to the editorial staff, who should understand the on-going changes and intentions of authors, and at the same time ensure correct key-wording and classification of all accepted papers.

Like its predecessors, the new *Proceedings* will be open for the world-wide scientific community for publication of internationally peer-reviewed papers in English. The quality of these papers will be the leading concern for the Editorial Board.

The Editors sincerely hope that the *Proceedings* will be widely accepted by the scientific community in Estonia, will grow into an attractive publication site for young as well as established researchers, and will be acknowledged in national scientific award nominations and elections into our Academy of Sciences.

Over the past ten years we have observed significant shifts in the way scientific journals are published and

disseminated. Among these on-line publication has clearly become a must for any respectable scientific journal. Not surprisingly, it has been found that one form of on-line publication, namely open-access publication, increases significantly the impact of scientific papers (Eysenbach, G. Citation advantage of open access articles. *PLoS Biol.*, 2006, 4(5), e157. doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.0040157). Following this trend, we certainly insist on continuation of the present on-line publication policy of the Estonian Academy Publishers for the new *Proceedings*, providing access to the full content of papers through its homepage at www.kirj.ee. We also hope that the electronic availability of our articles will be improved in the future, especially as we are considering joining the open-access publication world.

Finally, I would like to thank all my colleagues for their help and support at this starting point, and express my hopes that more and more researchers will wish to see their findings published in the *Proceedings of the Estonian Academy of Sciences*.

Jaak Järv
Editor-in-Chief

Jaak Järv received his CandSc (PhD) in Chemistry from the Institute of Chemistry of the Estonian Academy of Sciences (Tallinn) in 1976 and DSc, Physical Chemistry and Catalysis, from Moscow University in 1990. He was awarded Dr hc by the University of Kuopio (Finland) in 1991 and Dr Med Sc hc by the University of Uppsala (Sweden) in 1996. Currently he is Professor of Organic Chemistry at the University of Tartu. He is also President of the Estonian Biochemical Society, member of several scientific societies, councils, and committees, and belongs to the Editorial Board of the journal Bioorganic Chemistry (Elsevier). He is Editor-in-Chief of the Proceedings of the Estonian Academy of Sciences from 2007. At present his main research fields are design, synthesis, and testing of biomimetic organic compounds and peptidomimetics. He has published ten chapters in books and over 180 research papers in refereed journals.

