

JACS Au at Pacifichem 2021

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The International Chemical Congress of Pacific Basin Societies, typically abbreviated as Pacifichem, is one of the largest conferences focusing on chemistry, typically occurring every 5 years in the most central location of the Pacific region, Hawaii. Founded in 1984, Pacifichem 2021 (which begins today) will be the eighth in the series, and is cosponsored by American Chemical Society, Canadian Society for Chemistry, Chemical Society of Japan, Chinese Chemical Society, Korean Chemical Society, New Zealand Institute of Chemistry, and Royal Australian Chemical Institute. The Chemical Society of Japan hosts the 2021 Congress.¹

The goal of Pacifichem is to foster collaborations among Pacific basin chemical scientists with the aim of building partnerships within the region with the hope of finding solutions to global problems. The current conference was originally scheduled to be held in 2020, but it was delayed to 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. With the continued uncertainty relating to the pandemic coupled with marginal improvements in many parts of the world, the board of directors made the difficult decision to turn the overall conference into a virtual forum, with no in-person components. This means that, instead of enjoying the tropical sunshine in between technical sessions, conference attendees will meet virtually from various time zones. To this end, the organizers of each section made the effort to reorganize the talks considering the time zones of the speakers participating from all over the world.

The main theme of Pacifichem 2021 is *A Creative Vision for the Future*, with two subthemes of *Core Chemistry* and *Chemistry for Global Challenges*. Pacifichem 2021 will provide the platform for the disclosure and discussion of thousands of new findings in chemistry and related fields, providing new vistas addressing important problems facing humanity. *Core Chemistry* will include Analytical, Organic, Inorganic, Physical, Computational and Theoretical, Macromolecular and Biological, Materials Science, Nanotechnology, Chemical Education and Communication, and Chemical/Biological/Biomedical Engineering sessions. *Chemistry for Global Challenges* will include Chemistry for Sustainability, Chemistry for Energy, Chemistry for Health Care, and Artificial Intelligence, Big Data, and Beyond. Because the conference emphasizes the collaborative nature of chemistry as a multidisciplinary science, this year, more than ever, its central role in tackling major global challenges comes to the fore.

We originally planned to meet as many community members as possible in Honolulu, introducing *JACS Au* to the Pacifichem community. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve, we look forward to a future opportunity to meet in-person and discuss the role of *JACS Au* and open access publications in the global chemistry publishing landscape. As a fully open access journal, the goal of *JACS Au* is to provide a highly selective venue

that covers the full breadth of chemistry-related topics. As we seek to become a leading open access journal, close communication with potential authors, readers, and reviewers is very important and conferences like Pacifichem provide an excellent opportunity to build such personal connections.

Several members of the *JACS Au* editorial team are involved in Pacifichem 2021. Prof. Christopher Jones is co-organizing a session of “Porous Materials: Synthesis, Characterization, and Utilization”, Prof. Xin Xu is co-organizing a session on “Triangle of Heterogeneous Catalysis, Surface Science, and Theory”, and Prof. Hyunjoo Lee will present talks in three different sessions: “Supported Single-Ion Catalysts”, “New Directions in Homo/Heterogeneous Catalysis of Hydrogen Production and CO₂ Utilization”, and “Design of Single-Site and Nano-Confined Catalysts for Environmental and Energy Uses”.

If you will be attending the conference this year, please drop by one of our sessions virtually or reach out to us via other means. We will be very happy to discuss our research and answer any questions about *JACS Au* or open access publishing.

Christopher W. Jones, Editor-in-Chief orcid.org/0000-0003-3255-5791

Hyunjoo Lee, Associate Editor orcid.org/0000-0002-4538-9086

Xin Xu, Associate Editor orcid.org/0000-0002-5247-2937

Wasiu Lawal, Assistant Managing Editor

AUTHOR INFORMATION

Complete contact information is available at:
<https://pubs.acs.org/10.1021/jacsau.1c00539>

Notes

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REFERENCES

- <https://pacifichem.org/>.

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