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## Editorial

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The present issue completes the 2006 edition of the *International Journal of Nanotechnology*. Many hot topics are presented such as *DNA nanotechnology for tissue engineering and for cancer treatment, supramolecular chemistry & scanning tunneling microscopy, single particle analysis & electron tomography, nonequilibrium properties of amorphous structures and nanocavities, inorganic bio-nanomaterials, and scanning probe nanomanipulation* by scientists from Belgium, China, Ecuador, England, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, and the USA.

Over a 3-year period of existence, *Int. J. Nanotechnology* has released 5 special and 4 regular issues, representing a total of 83 articles and about 1500 pages of in-depth coverage of major topics in nanotechnology by invited researchers from all over the world. The journal has been released at major international conferences in North America, Africa, Europe, and Asia.

The successful release of special issues dedicated to the best of nanotechnology in selected countries/continents has been achieved; *Spain* (P. Serena, 2005), *Ukraine* (V. Pokropivny) and *Korea* (S.-W. Han) in 2006 have been the first ones to be released. The next special (double) issue, scheduled for publication in January 2007, is dedicated to *Nanotechnology in China*, and has been prepared under the direction of E. Wang (Beijing Univ.), S. Yang (Hong Kong Univ. of Sci. & Tech.) and J.G. Hou (Univ. of Sci. & Tech. of China). A growing number of additional issues are currently being completed/prepared by eminent guest editors: *Africa* (M. Maaza, IThemba labs; A.C. Beye, Univ. Senegal), *Australia* (A. Hill, CSIRO; C. Jagadish, Australian National Univ.; P. Majewski, South Australia Univ.), *Canada* (F. Rosei, Univ. du Quebec), *India* (G.U. Kulkarni, Jawaharlal Nehru Centre; J. Kumar, Indian Inst. Tech.), *Ireland* (W. Ahmed, Univ. of Ulster), *Italy* (A. de Battisti, Ferrara Univ.), *Latin America* (A. Fernandez, Univ. de Venezuela), *Singapore* (X.W. Sun, Nanyang Technological Univ.), *Sweden* (G. Westin, Uppsala Univ.), *Taiwan* (Y.-Y. Chen, M. K. Wu, Academia Sinica) and *Thailand* (J. Dutta, Asian Inst. Tech.). The aim of such series is to genuinely identify active and representative research themes and researchers involved in nanotechnology. It reveals the status and advances of nanotechnology as well as promoting scientists, institutions, laboratories, research networks and funding agencies all over the world. Such an initiative is already contributing to develop a better knowledge of nanoscience and nanotechnology and thus, more active collaborations between researchers in different countries is taking place. Other special issues dedicated to crucial topics in nanotechnology such as *toxicity, sensors, gas & oil industry* are under preparation.

The journal has truly become a major source of information on nanotechnology. Due to popular demand, *Int. J. Nanotechnology* will move from 4 to 6 issues per year while continuing to deliver geographically-balanced and high quality articles on important topics related to nanotechnology. Both fundamental and applied aspects are equally represented by invited contributions from young scientists as well as more established ones in many different fields. Moreover, beyond the very exciting new science, knowledge, and applications being discovered and investigated, the public awareness, perception, and understanding of nanoscience is also of tremendous importance for the implementation of such evolutionary and revolutionary technology. We intend to pursue such an educational direction and sincerely hope the journal is actively contributing to it. Finally, all the authors, contributors, and readers are greatly acknowledged for their support, consideration, and appreciation of the journal.