
Editorial

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Biographical notes: Umer Rashid is working as a Fellow Researcher (~Associate Professor) in the Institute of Advanced Technology at Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Malaysia since 2011. He obtained his PhD in Chemistry in 2009, from the University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF), Faisalabad, Pakistan. During his PhD he also worked as a Visiting Scientist in the Food and Industrial Oil Research Group at the USDA in Peoria, IL, USA. He did his Post Doctorate from the Universiti Teknologi Petronas, Malaysia in 2011. Before his Post Doctorate, he also served as a Lecturer and Assistant Professor at the Government College University Faisalabad, Faisalabad, Pakistan. He has several achievements which are still mounting rapidly and can be easily recognised through his recent publications in international journals, i.e., *Catalysis Reviews; Science and Engineering, Renewable & Sustainable Energy Reviews, RSC Advances, Applied Catalysis A: General, Energy Conversion and Management, Catalysts, Materials, Energies, Royal Society Open Science, Biomass and Bioenergy, Industrial Crops and Products, Fuel, Journal of Cleaner Production, Bioresource Technology, Powder Technology*, etc. He has produced more than 200 research articles in internationally recognised peer reviewed journals. His cumulative research papers impact factor is 620 with 37 *h*-index including 4695 Scopus citations. He has also been successful in securing prestigious international (TWAS-COMSTECH) and national research grants (MOSTI; Putra Grants) for the development of catalysts and biodiesel synthesis. He is also privileged to be an editor, co-editor and guest editor of other journals as well.

The *2nd International Symposium on Advanced Materials and Nanotechnology (i-SAMN) 2018*, formerly known as Workshop on Advanced Materials and Nanotechnology (WAMN), was held in The Everly Putrajaya, Putrajaya from 15–16 August, 2018. This event was hosted by the Institute of Advanced Technology (ITMA), Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) for the past 15 years. This time two-days *i-SAMN 2018* was organised by the Institute of Advanced Technology (ITMA), in collaboration with the Department of Chemical and Environmental Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, UPM and Malaysia Nanotechnology Association (MNA). The *i-SAMN* event covers a wide range of topics from basic principles to new emerging applications in advanced materials and nanotechnologies. A pool of research experts in nanomaterials and nanotechnology had participated and presented their keynote, plenary and invited talks, together with oral presentations in the *i-SAMN 2018* event.

It is our great pleasure to present nine selected key papers from the *i-SAMN 2018* in this special issue of *International Journal of Nanotechnology (IJNT)* from Inderscience Publishers. The contributions presented in this special issue have been peer-reviewed in a selective process. As Guest Editor, I would like to thank all the authors for their precious contributions and all the reviewers for their excellent work in evaluating the submitted manuscripts. I also express my special thanks to the Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Lionel Vayssieres, for his kind support in preparing this special issue and his acceptance to publish the contributions of the presenters in our symposium.