Ten years ago this month, we published our first issue of ACS Nano. We had a grand vision, which we have kept to this day, that we would accelerate advances in the field by laying out the possibilities and implications for nanoscience and nanotechnology, in addition to identifying and reporting the required steps along the way. We felt that it was critical to provide comprehensive, high-profile descriptions of novel work on which others could build. We saw that previously missing venue as an important step for our field, and 10 years on, we can now see how far we have come as a result.

The first issue of ACS Nano was published 10 years ago this month, in August 2007.

Another goal was to become the public face of nanoscience and nanotechnology. We take this role seriously, as if we do not let our neighbors, our legislators, and others know what we do, we leave that image in the hands of science. We have heard from companies that entire research teams have been developed as a consequence of these efforts. We have heard from many of you around the world that you have found inspiration in these pieces. We have heard from companies that entire research teams have been developed as a consequence of these efforts. We have more of these articles under way and others planned, with international perspectives and contributions, because that is the way science, technology, engineering, and medicine are done in the world.

We are also doing our best to promote our field both in terms of current capabilities and, perhaps more importantly, what is to come in the future. We look forward to working with you on the future of our field and what we can do in related areas, as well.

We also wanted to share with you how and why we so enjoy being editors together at ACS Nano. We set up ACS Nano to be different than other journals in that we share decisions, using multiple editors to assess each submission and potential submission, area, or field. We have deliberately selected editors who are as different as possible from one another in every way, but who are, at the same time, intellectually deep and strongly interactive and social. We talk informally multiple times per day, formally once a month, and meet together in person at least twice a year (including this month in Beijing, China at ChinaNano). All our editors are leading active scientists and engineers, and only these editors make decisions on manuscripts. No editor can decline a manuscript alone; there is always a discussion of the importance and impact of the work. It is through these interactions and conversations that we are intellectually stimulated and excited for the field and where it is going. It would be impossible to feel otherwise as we see the amazing submissions and have the deep discussions about what a real advance in each area would mean. The hard part for us is selecting which submissions we move forward, as we can only do that with a small fraction of manuscripts we receive, and the vast majority report strong work deserving of high-profile publication. When we select referees, we do so by hand (not through an automated database), because we have the expertise to do so. We purposefully have editors from countries different than the authors handle manuscripts, so as to cross-pollinate the world of science. Our editors are also extremely active in connecting with scientific communities around the world. If you would like to know where to find us, we typically announce editors’ talks and visits on Twitter at @acsnano. We are always happy to hear from you and to meet you in person on these and other occasions. Part of this travel is reconnaissance; we are looking for interesting and exciting advances and ideas. After each issue is published, we formally review it to see how we did, where we might have done better, and also what new research groups we were able to engage. We also depend on our advisors, readers, referees, staff, and others for ideas both on specific topics and on how we might improve as a journal. Much of what you see in ACS Nano originates from ideas from our editorial advisory board, which meets annually in addition to asynchronous communications, and from informal meetings with friends of the journal at conferences and visits, or simply sent to us.

We will be celebrating our tenth anniversary at the national meeting of the American Chemical Society in Washington, DC on Monday, August 21 at noon at the ACS Publications booth and at ChinaNano in Beijing, at the posters on the evening of Tuesday, August 29 and with the ACS Nano Award lectures on the morning of Thursday, August 31. We will be happy to celebrate with you wherever in the world we see you! In the meantime, we have been capturing some of the highlights of the last 10 years with a series of 10 virtual issues, selected by our editors on key topics in nanoscience and nanotechnology.

Our First and Next Decades at ACS Nano

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nanotechnology, we hope you are enjoying them as much as we are.

We would like to take this occasion to thank you—our authors, referees, advisors, staff, the American Chemical Society, the journalists, and the nanoscience and nanotechnology communities—who have all made ACS Nano what it is and what it will be.

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Notes

Views expressed in this editorial are those of the authors and not necessarily the views of the ACS.

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