

### CrossRef Invites You to its Labs

**G**eoffrey Bilder, director of strategic initiatives at CrossRef, announced in October 2009 the creation of CrossRef Labs website, <<http://labs.crossref.org>>, which will be the home for some of the prototypes and experiments that CrossRef is developing. Bilder wrote:

“Here you can find links to various tools and services that either make it easier to use CrossRef services (e.g.,

Blog/Ubiquity plugins and OpenSearch Description files) or that serve to illustrate a concept that has been of interest to our members (InChI lookup, TOI-DOIs).”



Of particular interest to IUPAC circles is the InChI lookup. The idea is to create a mechanism that would allow CrossRef publishers to record InChIs in their submitted CrossRef metadata. This, in turn, would allow CrossRef to provide a service that allows users to look up the published articles that mention a particular InChI, and look up the InChIs mentioned in a published article.

Users should be aware that the CrossRef Labs home page has the following admonition: “Most of the experiments linked to here are running on R&D equipment in a nonproduction environment. They may disappear without warning and/or perform erratically. If one of them isn't working for some reason, come back later and try again.”

CrossRef is a not-for-profit membership association whose mission is to enable easy identification and use of trustworthy electronic content by promoting the cooperative development and application of a sustainable infrastructure.

 <http://labs.crossref.org>

### Primary Data for Chemistry

**I**n collaboration with the German National Library of Science and Technology (TIB), the scientific publisher Thieme is making primary chemistry data accessible worldwide. Analytical data, from various experiments, is the foundation of research work and scientific papers. From now on, primary data will be registered and made available online via the Thieme eJournals website using digital object recognition in the form of Digital Object Identifiers (DOI). This will enable scientists to easily locate research articles, including accompanying data, and make enhanced use of the scientific content.

Primary data is scientific data gathered from experimental measurements and predominately available in electronic formats. In the field of chemistry, such data is accumulated by a variety of analytical, spectroscopic, or computer simulation methods. Thus far, the vast amount of data lies scattered on the computers of scientists who have produced the information. As no central repository exists, no archival storage is possible at the moment. Scientific results are solely published in journals—but not the primary data from which those results originate. Due to the missing credit that working up such data currently receives, primary data is often poorly documented, difficult to access, and not saved for the long term.

Susanne Haak, the managing editor responsible for chemistry journals at Thieme explains, “Access to primary data is a fundamental condition for research work, particularly in the natural sciences.” Therefore, Thieme and experts from TIB have developed a uniform structure for publishing primary



### Major Update to IYC Website Completed

**I**f you haven't visited the IYC2011 website lately, you really should stop by and experience the site's dynamic new features, which enable chemists across the globe to connect with one another and share ideas, activities and events related to the international year of chemistry. This phase of the IYC2011 website is a continuation of the technical work initiated in 2009 with the BitGroup, a Boston-based web design company.

 [www.chemistry2011.org](http://www.chemistry2011.org)

data. Through structuring and central data registration, a Germany-wide unique service of TIB, valuable knowledge will be harnessed.

“The data will be permanently saved and, by assigning them a DOI, made accessible and searchable, as well as citable and linkable,” states Jan Brase from the TIB Registration Agency. An additional positive effect is that authors receive recognition for their research work.

 [www.thieme-connect.com/ejournals](http://www.thieme-connect.com/ejournals)

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### In Memoriam: Pan Ming Huang (1934–2009)

by Antonio Violante

**L**ongtime IUPAC member Pan Ming Huang, professor emeritus of soil science at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Canada, died 13 September 2009 at age 75.

Huang was an eminent scholar, a great educator, a man of vision, and extraordinary leadership. He was a teacher appreciated for his organization and thoroughness, his passion for science, and for his high expectations. Most of his students and colleagues mention the decisive influence he had on their careers. A member of the IUPAC Chemistry and the Environment Division Committee, the Subcommittee on Biophysico-Chemical Processes in Environmental Systems, and earlier of the Commission on Fundamental Environmental Chemistry, Huang was editor of the IUPAC book series *Biophysico-Chemical Processes in Environmental Systems*.

Huang was born in Taiwan on 2 September 1934. After graduating with a degree in agricultural chemistry from the National Chung Hsing University, he moved to the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, in 1961. It was there that he met Lin, the lovely young woman who was to become his wife. He moved on to the University of Wisconsin at Madison upon completing his Masters in 1962, studying for his Ph.D. with M.L. Jackson, one of the world's most highly regarded soil scientists. Huang and Jackson worked well together, developing a warm friendship that continued for decades. Huang received his Ph.D. degree in Soil Science in 1965 and in the same year traveled to Saskatoon having accepted a position

in the Department of Soil Science at the University of Saskatchewan. In 1966, he and Lin were married. Lin has been a wonderful companion and support for him. They have two children: Daniel and Crystal.

Huang was a leading international authority on environmental soil chemistry, with emphasis on mineral colloids and organo-mineral complexes, their reactions with nutrients and pollutants in soils and waters and the impact on ecosystem health. He pioneered extensive chemical, spectroscopic, and ultra-microscopic research on the formation mechanisms of short-range ordered (poorly crystalline) mineral colloids which are extremely reactive in governing the accumulation, transport, and bioavailability of nutrients and pollutants in the environment. He performed groundbreaking work in establishing mineral catalysis mechanisms of transformations of biomolecules such as sugars, phenolic compounds and amino acids, and the resulting formation of humic substances which are essential for maintaining and for enhancing the productivity of the land and are also vital in influencing the dynamics and fate of environmental pollutants. Further, his cutting-edge research has advanced the world's knowledge on the chemistry and behavior of vital and toxic inorganic ions and organic compounds in soils and freshwaters and their impact on agricultural sustainability and ecosystem protection.

His research accomplishments are embodied in over 300 refereed publications, of which nine were published in *Nature*. Furthermore, he has written 2 books, edited 17 books, and successfully trained and inspired Ph.D. and M.Sc. students (more than 60) and postdoctoral fellows (45).

### Errata

On page 7 in the Nov-Dec 2009 *CI*, a caption identifying IUPAC Vice President Kazuyuki Tatsumi of Japan is mislabeled and incorrectly lists his country as Korea.

On page 22 in the Nov-Dec 2009 *CI* (last paragraph) it is mentioned that Maximo Baron was accepted as a fellow by The Royal Society of London. This is a mistake and should simply read that he is a Fellow of The Royal Society of Chemistry.