I am most greatful to the Editorial board of SYNLETT to prepare this special issue of works from the Chinese Synthetic Chemistry community. The significance of this gesture is perhaps the recognition and encouragement of our effort.

China entered the stage of modern chemistry in earnest in the first half of the 20th century, as signalled by the publication of Acta Chimica Sinica under the auspices of the Chinese Chemical Society. First appearing in 1933, the Journal is now coming to the publication of its 64th volume. A great many things have happened since then in China, but the current period is witnessing a remarkable surge of activities in chemical research, due to the open policy, the rapid economic growth, and the return of many talented young chemists who have received rigorous training from abroad. Needless to say, our organochemical research still lags behind those of the advanced countries.

This issue may then serve as a yardstick to measure and record our own progress and to show our presence in the field of organic synthesis.

Organic synthesis plays a vital role in chemistry and it is a best manifest for the creativity and usefulness of chemistry. While it has already made a great contribution to the development of biological and material sciences, we actually expect an increase of its importance in the future. On the other hand, for a sustainable future society, it is necessary to redirect the traditional chemical industry toward one that is environmentally acceptable (green and clean) and in harmony with the society. This is a responsibility our generation and those which follow must take, and we in China resolve to adhere. As a Chinese synthetic organic chemist, I trust that we, in joining the global effort, will do better for the better life of humanity.

Li-Xin Dai
Carry forward the cause and forge ahead into the future, making further advances on organic synthetic chemistry in China.

Hian Huang,
Organic synthesis is a never-fading flower in the Garden of Science. As one of its salient features, it is vying with Nature in terms of structural intricacy.

X. T. Liang
2005
求真务实
锐意创新
勇攀高峰

Truth-seeking,
Boldly innovation,
endeavor to scale
the scientific summit
Dedicate to the advances in chemical sciences
Keep on bringing honors to our country.

Yangjiej Wu