

## Scope and Editorial Policy

### I. General Considerations

*Langmuir* is devoted to reporting new and original experimental and theoretical research of interest to scientists in the fields of surface and colloid chemistry. The material may have applied aspects, but the dominant emphasis is on fundamental research. Manuscripts that are essentially reporting data, applications of data, or reviews of the literature are, in general, not suitable for publication in *Langmuir*.

All manuscripts are subject to critical review. It is to be understood that the final decision relating to a manuscript's suitability rests solely with the editors.

**Notice: Documents accepted for publication in ACS Journals will be posted in the World Wide Web edition of the journal as soon as they are ready for publication, that is when galley proofs are corrected and all author concerns are resolved. This can occur anywhere from 2 to 11 weeks in advance of the cover date of the printed issue. Authors should take this into account when planning their intellectual and patent activities related to a document. The actual date on which the document is posted on the Web is recorded in a separate line at the bottom of the first page of the document in the printed issue.**

Special arrangements with the editor can sometimes be made in order to publish symposium papers as a group.

Corresponding authors will receive 50 free electronic reprints via an Electronic Reprint URL. There are no page charges associated with *Langmuir*.

### II. Types of Manuscripts

*Langmuir* publishes five types of papers: *Letters*, *Articles*, *Notes*, *Comments*, and *Errata*.

**A.** *Letters* are short articles that report results whose immediate availability to the scientific community is deemed important. *Letters* are restricted to 2000 words or the equivalent (~8 double-spaced typewritten pages of text and 3–4 figures). A brief summary of less than 100 words should be included. *Letters* often will be complete publications, but follow-up publication may occasionally be justified when the research is continued and a more complete account of the work is deemed necessary.

Special efforts will be made to expedite the reviewing and the publication of *Letters*. The time for proofreading the galley proofs is relatively short. For this reason, authors of *Letters* should ensure that manuscripts are in final, error-free form when submitted.

**B.** *Articles* should cover their subjects with thoroughness, clarity, and completeness but should be as **concise** as possible. Abstracts to *Articles* are limited to 300 words and should summarize the significant results and conclusions. *Articles* are scheduled for publication in the order of acceptance within sections and within limitations of available space.

**C.** *Notes* should be a report in full of significant work that is limited in scope; they are restricted to 2000 words (same as *Letters*). Extensive speculative interpretation is not appropriate. *Notes* are not preceded by an Abstract, but one should accompany the manuscript.

**D.** *Comments* are technical contributions providing, with supporting material, a respectful but alternative point of view to one that has appeared in *Langmuir*. Other specifications are the same as for a *Note*.

**E.** *Errata* are author's corrections to printed manuscripts and are limited to the length required to correct errors in print.

### III. Functions of Reviewers

The editors request the scientific advice of reviewers who are active in the area of research covered by the manuscript. The reviewers act only in an advisory capacity, and the final decision concerning a manuscript is the responsibility of the editors. The reviewers are asked to comment not only on the scientific content but also on the manuscript's suitability for *Langmuir*. With respect to *Letters*, the reviewers are asked to comment specifically on the urgency of publication. **Authors are encouraged to suggest, when submitting a manuscript, names of scientists who could give a competent and objective evaluation of the work.** All reviews are anonymous, and the reviewing process is most effective if reviewers do not reveal their identities to the authors. An exception arises in connection with a manuscript submitted for publication in the form of a comment on the work of another author. Under such circumstances the first author will, in general, be allowed to review the communication and to write a rebuttal. The rebuttal and the original communication may be published together in the same issue of the journal.

### IV. Revised Manuscripts

A manuscript sent back to an author for revision should be returned to the editor within **60 days**; otherwise it will be considered withdrawn. Revised manuscripts returned to the editor must be submitted in triplicate, together with its electronic form. **Unless the changes are very minor, all pages affected by revision must be retyped.** Revised manuscripts are generally sent back to the original reviewers, who are asked to comment on the revisions. If only minor revisions are involved, the editors examine the revised manuscript in light of the recommendations of the reviewers without seeking further opinions. If revisions are so extensive that a new typescript of the manuscript is necessary, *it is requested that a copy of the original manuscript be submitted along with the revised one.* In any case, a letter from the author should accompany the revised manuscript in which a detailed account of how the author has responded to the reviewer's comments is given. The dates of receipt of the original and the revised manuscripts will both appear in publication.