

Introducing our new Editorial Board Members

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The Chimica Techno Acta (CTA) journal was established in 2014. Since then, CTA has grown into a recognized platform for reporting recent advances in engineering chemistry. We would like to express our deep appreciation to all our authors, reviewers and readers, whose valuable participation has contributed greatly to the current level of CTA.

One year ago, in a desire to further enhance the journal's visibility and impact, a number of important changes were initiated, such as visual redesigning of the journal's website, updating editorial policies and clarifying the Aims & Scope. More importantly, we undertook a step towards expanding our Editorial Board team. As a result of this initiative, we are glad to welcome Prof. Ekaterina Kozlova from the Boreskov Institute of Catalysis and Dr. Farid Orudzhev from the Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University as our new Editorial Board Members.

Prof. Ekaterina Kozlova



Ekaterina Kozlova is currently working as leading researcher and head of the Postgraduate School Department at the Boreskov Institute of Catalysis (Novosibirsk, Russia). She graduated from Faculty of Natural Science of Novosibirsk State University in 2005; got Ph.D. degree in chemical sciences in 2008 (topic – “Photocatalytic destruction of organophosphorous and sulfurorganic compounds for water purification and hydrogen production processes”), and a doctoral degree in chemical sciences in 2018 (topic – “Heterogeneous suspended semiconductor photocatalysts for hydrogen production from aqueous solutions of electron donors”). The scientific work of E.A. Kozlova is concerned to the study of the photocatalytic

processes under UV- and visible light. Her investigation is aimed at the photocatalytic water and air purification; hydrogen production and carbon dioxide reduction processes development as well as photogalvanic devices creation. She is the author of more than 80 articles in high-rank peer-reviewed journals and the winner of a number of Russian and international scientific awards, including Academia Europaea Prize for Young Russian Scientists (2009), National L'Oreal-UNESCO Scholarship for Women in Science (2011), and Grant of the President of the Russian Federation for Young Scientists (2015, 2020). In 2022, she was elected a professor of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

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Dr. Farid Orudzhev



Farid Orudzhev is currently working as researcher at the REC "Smart Materials and Biomedical Applications" at the Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University in Kaliningrad. He is also the head of the "Smart Materials" laboratory at the Dagestan State University and a senior researcher at the Amirkhanov Institute of Physics, Dagestan Federal Research Center of the Russian Academy of Sciences in Makhachkala. Received in 2017 his Ph.D. degree in Solid State Chemistry and Physical Chemistry at the Saint-Petersburg State Institute of Technology (topic – “Influence of the composition and structure of titanium oxide photocatalysts on the oxidation of phenol under oxygen pressure”). The scientific work of Orudzhev is concerned to the investigation of the processes of photocatalytic decomposition of pollutants under various external influences, such as oxygen pressure, ultrasonic action,

magnetic fields. Design and characterization of smart composite nanomaterials combining multiple functional properties simultaneously for photocatalytic, piezocatalytic and piezophotocatalytic applications.

He is the author of more than 50 articles in high-rank peer-reviewed journals and the winner of a number of scientific awards, including Honorary Diploma of the Government of the Republic of Dagestan «For achievements in scientific and educational activities», 2019; Best young scientist of the Republic of Dagestan, 2021, Russian President's Fellowship for Young Scientists since 2018-2021, 2021-2023.

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As a way to introduce the new Editors to our community, we have interviewed them about their careers and aspirations in the fields of chemistry and materials science. In this Editorial, Prof. Ekaterina Kozlova and Dr. Farid Orudzhev kindly answered the following questions:

What reasons determined your choice of a career in chemistry?

Ekaterina: My interest in chemistry was instilled in me by a teacher in high school, I actively participated in various chemistry olympiads. Therefore, when choosing a specialty when entering a university, I did not even doubt that I would enter the chemical department of the Faculty of Natural Sciences of NSU.

Farid: Since childhood, I grew up in an atmosphere of books and a deep reverence for knowledge. My parents are chemistry teachers and therefore it seems to me more correct to say that I did not choose chemistry, but chemistry chose me. I believe that the choice of life path is largely determined by family and upbringing. And of course, each person has his own inexplicable "chemistry" in his mind, which helps in choosing.

What were your main career steps?

Ekaterina:

9/1999 - 7/2003 Education at the Faculty of Natural Sciences of the Novosibirsk State University, received a bachelor's degree with honors in the specialty "ecology and nature management".

9/2003 - 7/2005 Studying at the Faculty of Natural Sciences in the master's program of Novosibirsk State University, received a master's degree with honors in the specialty "chemistry".

7/2005 - 6/2008 Postgraduate student at Novosibirsk State University.

5/2008 - PhD thesis defended on the topic "Photocatalytic decomposition of phosphorus and sulfur organic substances for cleaning the environment and producing hydrogen"

10/2018 - The thesis for the degree of Doctor of Chemistry was defended on the topic "Heterogeneous semiconductor suspended photocatalysts for the processes of hydrogen production from aqueous solutions of electron donors"

04/2009 - 12/2013 - Researcher, BIC SB RAS.

01/2014 - 05/2018 - Senior Researcher, BIC SB RAS.

05/2018 - present time - Leading Researcher of the BIC SB RAS.

04/2018 - present time - Head of Department of Postgraduate Studies of BIC SB RAS.

04/2022 - elected a professor of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

Farid: I studied at the Faculty of Chemistry of the Dagestan State University with a degree in environmental protection and rational use of natural resources. Also completed postgraduate studies there and defended PhD thesis in 2017 at Saint-Petersburg State Institute of Technology. After the defense, under the intra-university program to support young scientists, a youth laboratory "Smart Materials" was created at the Faculty of Chemistry, which I still manage. By this time, I had already been working at the Faculty of Physics for quite a long time as a senior lecturer and researcher at the REC "Nanotechnologies". From 2017-2022, I worked in the university administration as the head of the intellectual property department, which was later reformatted into the department of innovation and technology transfer. Since 2022, I have been a researcher at the REC "Smart Materials and Biomedical Applications" at the Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University in Kaliningrad.

Which of your own publications are you most proud of?

Ekaterina: Kozlova E.A., Cherepanova S.V., Markovskaya D.V., Saraev A.A., Gerasimov E.Y., Parmon V.N. Novel Photocatalysts Pt/Cd_{1-x}Zn_xS/ZnO/Zn(OH)₂: Activation During Hydrogen Evolution from Aqueous Solutions of Ethanol under Visible Light, Applied Catalysis B: Environmental. 2016. V.183. P.197-205.

Farid: In fact, each of my publications is dear to me, since a certain segment of my life is associated with each of them. I am proud of my first publication, which I wrote myself. It inspired me and made me believe in myself. I am proud of the article in Nano Energy as it is the first high-impact article we have written with students from my lab.

Why should young people study chemistry?

Ekaterina: Chemistry is a science that describes all phenomena in life. At present, this is one of the most de-

manded areas of science, especially in the field of creating new materials.

Farid: I don't think that all young people should learn chemistry. Everyone should read a lot, study and strive for knowledge. But it will be chemistry, biology or any other field of knowledge, it does not matter. The best professional in his field is the one who consciously comes to the choice.

What are your five most favorite journals?

Ekaterina: Journal of the American Chemical Society, Angewandte Chemie - International Edition, Applied Catalysis B: Environmental, ACS Catalysis, and Journal of Catalysis.

Farid: I really love the journals published by ACS and RCS. If we talk about journals that should be constantly read, then I would definitely mention Chemical Reviews and Chemical Society Reviews. They help me to keep abreast of frontier trends in science. And of course, there are journals that are leading in the field in which I conduct research: Applied Catalysis B: Environmental, Chemical Engineering Journal, Nano Energy, Nature Catalysis, ACS Catalysis. I would like, of course, eventually to become the author of articles in each of these journals. I would very much like Russian journals to adopt the principles of work and high standards of such publishing houses.

What are the main differences in the roles of author, reviewer and editor? What do they have in common?

Ekaterina: There are a lot of similarities in the work of a reviewer and an editor - it is necessary to evaluate the level of publication, its compliance with the profile of the journal. When you are an author, on the contrary, you need to submit an article that meets the requirements of the journal as much as possible and is interesting for readers. In general, it seems to me that reviewing and editing articles helps a lot to prepare your own interesting and high-quality articles.

Farid: Here we can distinguish two parties that have their own interests. On the one hand, there are authors who are interested in their article being published as soon as possible in a good journal, so that as many colleagues as possible can see it. On the other hand, they are editors who are assisted by reviewers. It is important for the editor that the article corresponds to the specialization of the journal and is interesting to readers. Well, reviewers are an indispensable link that ensures the high scientific quality of publications.

Very often these are the same people - scientists, and the most important thing that unites everyone is that they contribute to the progress of science. And of course, the quality of scientific journals and publications will be the higher, the more scientists will be involved in the process and will understand the specifics of the work of each of the parties.

On behalf of the Editorial Board of the CTA journal, I would like to offer a warm welcome to Prof. Ekaterina Kozlova and Dr. Farid Orudzhev and express hope on fruitful and mutually beneficial collaboration.

Dr. Dmitry Medvedev
Editor-in-Chief