

American Crystallographic Association

1995 Council

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Dr. Hu Sheng-Zhi Chem. Dept. Xiamen Univ. Xiamen 361005 REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Dear Dr. Sheng-Zhi,

On behalf of the membership of the American Crystallographic Association, it gives me great pleasure to extend congratulations to you upon your retirement. Your membership in, and support of, the ACA during your career in science has been greatly appreciated. Although the ACA office has made significant progress in the past ten years in maintaining our archival records and expanded service to the membership, there are gaps in the records and we often find ourselves unable to provide information upon request. We would appreciate it very much if you would take the time to send us a copy of your most recent curriculum vitae, a brief biography, and a narrative sketch of the highlights of your career, including information on your years of ACA membership, any offices held in the ACA and the scientific accomplishments you have made that you consider most significant.

The ACA remains a largely volunteer organization. Perhaps in retirement, in addition to doing many of the things that you couldn't find time for in the past, you will consider continued involvement in the ACA. Your experience, knowledge, and expertise could be extremely helpful in the areas of continuing education, public information, history of crystallography, organization of the archives, or any other aspect of the ACA that interests you.

If you would like to share any reminiscences of your career in science or activities in retirement with fellow crystallographers, we would be pleased to have this material for possible inclusion in the ACA or IUCr Newsletter.

In recent years, books and papers from the libraries of a number of pioneers in the field (David Harker, Ben Post, Bert Chamberland and Aimery Caron) have been donated to the ACA. An effort to catalog, organize and preserve this valued material is ongoing, but volunteers help with the effort and financial support for acquisitions of bookshelves, storage space and to support clerical assistance is needed. Any contribution you wish to make of books or records from your own career in crystallography would be welcome and greatly appreciated. Duplicate copies will be distributed to libraries and laboratories in institutions and countries where crystallographers are in need of them. If you would like to spend a week in the ACA office working on the archives, we would be pleased to have your assistance.

1995 is the 100th anniversary of the discovery of X-rays. There is a growing interest in the history of the field. A representative of the Smithsonian Institute has recently contacted the ACA office soliciting assistance in gathering prototypical and typical instruments and devices that have been critical to that development. If you have such instruments and/or devices that might be an endangered species, please let us know. I urge you to contact the Smithsonian directly and send a copy of the letter to the ACA office. Progress in this effort will be reported in the ACA and IUCr Newsletters.

Buffalo, NY 14205-0096

Sincerely,

Hugo Steinfink ACA President