

Note from the Editor-in-Chief on Topical Sections

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After its major overhaul in January 2007, ACS – “Advances in Complex Systems” (<http://www.worldscinet.com/acs/>) – has grown considerably, both in number of submissions and in scientific recognition. As a consequence of this, the publication schedule of ACS has changed from a quarterly to a *bi-monthly* journal since 2008, to also allow for a shorter publication time.

Starting with this issue, we introduce a new feature of ACS, *Topical Sections*. So far, ACS has already published up to two *Special Issues* per year which cover a full issue and are mostly related to major conferences in the area of complex systems research. *Topical Sections*, on the other hand, may contain a smaller number of papers (typically four to six), which focus on a particular topic and may provide different perspectives on that. In particular, *Topical Sections* allow to deal with new research issues in complex systems not already covered in the *Aims and Scope* of ACS. They may also provide a platform for controversial scientific discussions on emerging research areas. The current *Topical Section: Language Dynamics* gives an interesting example of that. But *Topical Sections* can also be used to publish selected high-quality papers from scientific meetings (such as smaller topical workshops).

Topical Sections will, from now on, regularly appear in upcoming issues of ACS. The Editor-in-Chief invites proposals on challenging topics or conferences for both *Topical Sections* and *Special Issues*, reporting on original and excellent research in the field of complex systems.