

## PREFACE

*Annual Review of Nano Research* publishes excellent review articles in selected topic areas authored by those who are authorities in their own subfields of nanotechnology with two vital aims: (1) to present a comprehensive and coherent distilling of the state-of-the-art experimental results and understanding of theories detailed from the otherwise segmented and scattered literature, and (2) to offer critical opinions regarding the challenges, promises, and possible future directions of nano research.

The third volume of *Annual Review of Nano Research* includes 11 articles offering a concise review detailing recent advancements in a few selected subfields in nanotechnology. The first topic to be focused upon in this volume is the bio-applications of and bio-inspired nanostructured materials. The second featured subfield is the recent advancement in the synthesis and fabrication of nanomaterials or nanostructures. Energy related applications of nanostructures and nanomaterials are the third focal topic in this volume.

We want to thank all the contributing authors for their time and efforts devoted to the excellent review articles published in this volume. Mr. Yeow-Hwa Quek from World Scientific Publishing was responsible for much of the coordination necessary to make the publication of this volume possible.

Guozhong Cao  
Seattle, WA

Qifeng Zhang  
Seattle, WA

C. Jeffrey Brinker  
Albuquerque, NM