

Dear Colleague:

My name is Albert Lang, and I am working as Research Editorial Assistant for Professor Philip A. Rea in the Department of Biology here at the University of Pennsylvania. We are in the process of writing what will essentially be a third edition of the book *Biochemistry, A Problems Approach* – Biological Structure and the Chemistry of Proteins. In recognition of its connection to another book, *Biochemical Reasoning*, however, it has been renamed *Biochemical Reasoning, A Problems Approach*. As the name implies, problem solving is at the core of this book. The level of difficulty of the problems will range from the very straightforward, answerable in a few short sentences or by a few lines of calculations, to the more elaborate take home-type, requiring several paragraphs of text and extensive numerical analysis.

We are asking if you have any problems that you would be willing to contribute to this book. These problems, along with their accompanying keys and any appropriate figures, need not be in their final, polished form but can be rough (very rough) drafts. Indeed, we encourage you to send raw data where appropriate. We, in close liaison with the publisher's editors, will edit and finalize the language, and artists commissioned by the publisher will render the figures.

Please note that the book will not only have an abbreviated, parenthetical citation after each question, attributing credit to its originator, but will also have a full listing of contributors together with their institutional affiliations in the prefatory acknowledgements section. Moreover, we will respect the confidentiality of these questions, as they will not be released until the book reaches the proofing stage in approximately twelve months time. That said, we would like to request your permission to use these problems, as appropriate, in our own teaching here at Penn to test and refine some of them before going to print.

Copies of the questions can be sent to us as scans, faxes, emails, or PDF or Word attachments. The fax number is provided in my signature, and emails can be sent to either me at alang@sas.upenn.edu or to Philip A. Rea at parea@sas.upenn.edu. Please have a look at the website of the publisher commissioning this update, Roberts & Company Publishers, at <http://www.roberts-publishers.com/>, and in particular the text by John McMurry and Tadhg Begley, *The Organic Chemistry of Biological Pathways*, which we consider to be the nearest fit to the book we will be producing in terms of overall layout and quality of figure rendition. You may wish to look at the [preliminary table of contents for the book](#), which will inevitably change as we write and compile the book in large part because of the questions you and others submit and [sample problems](#) that represent the more challenging, in-depth questions that will be presented along with those of a more straightforward variety can be downloaded from

We ask that you send any material by the end of April and either advise us of any other potential contributors you may know of or bring this letter to their attention. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to email either me or Dr. Rea. Many thanks for your help. We look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,

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