Molecular Design or Serendipity?
The Real Thrill in Supramolecular Chemistry

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Supramolecular systems are constructed as a result of the self-assembly of a certain number of organic and/or inorganic building blocks through weak interactions such as metal coordination and hydrogen bonding. So far, synthetic chemists have reported a great number of excellent examples of purpose-designed supramolecules, whereas they have come across new supramolecules with unexpected structures and functions by accident. Such supramolecules often have great potential to open a new frontier in chemistry.

This talk will focus on the synergistic effect of rational molecular design and serendipity in supramolecular chemistry by taking our recent examples of metal arrays,[1] designer nanospaces,[2] and multiple gearing systems.[3]

Selected references:
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