

## Professor Mthembeni 'Mac' Zulu

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It is with sad regret that we have to inform you of the passing of Professor Mthembeni 'Mac' Zulu. He died in a head-on collision on the 18th October 1997. He was a member of Commission II.2. The funeral was on 25th October.

## 1998 Wolf Prize in Chemistry

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Jerusalem—Professors Gerhard Ertl of the Fritz-Haber Institute, Max-Planck Gesellschaft, Berlin, and Gabor A. Somorjai, of the University of California and the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, Berkeley, were named the 1998 Wolf Prize winners in Chemistry for their outstanding contributions to the field of surface science.

The Israel-based Wolf Foundation announced today that both distinguished scientists will share the \$100 000 award for their elucidation of fundamental mechanisms of heterogeneous catalytic reactions at single crystal surfaces.

Gerhard Ertl, born 1936, and Gabor A. Somorjai, 1935, have laid the foundation of our present conceptual understanding of catalyzed chemical reactions at surfaces, of enormous importance in industrial technology as well as basic science. Modern surface technologies are applied in many industrial processes such as chemical catalysis, electronics, lubrication, and materials science. Efficient surface catalysts help as well to sustain a clean environment by promoting reactions which destroy toxic pollutants.

Gabor A. Somorjai, has been Professor at the Univer-

sity of California, Berkeley, and Senior Scientist of the Materials Science Division, at the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, since 1994. Born in Budapest, he received his BSc from the Technical University, Budapest, and PhD from the University of California in 1972. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, USA, of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, and a Fellow of the Academy of the Physical Society.

Professor Gerhard Ertl, born in Stuttgart, has been associated with the Fritz-Haber Institute of the Max-Planck Gesellschaft, Berlin, since 1988. He received his Ph.D. from the Technical University München, after attending the Technical University of Stuttgart and the University of Paris. He is Honorary Professor of the Free and the Technical Universities of Berlin, was Director of the Institute of Physical Chemistry, University of München, and visiting Professor at the California Institute of Technology, and University of California, Berkeley.

The Wolf Prizes were presented on 10 May 1998 by the President of Israel, Ezer Weizman, at the Knesset (Parliament) building in Jerusalem. Annual awards of \$100 000 in each category are made for outstanding achievements in Agriculture, Mathematics, Medicine, Physics, the Arts, as well as Chemistry.

The previous Wolf Prize in Chemistry was awarded to Gilbert Stork, Professor Emeritus of Columbia University, New York, and Professor Samuel J. Danishevsky, Director of the Laboratory for Bio-organic chemistry of the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York. Since 1978, 175 laureates from 18 countries have been honored by the Wolf Foundation.

The Wolf Foundation was established by the late Dr. Ricardo Wolf, inventor, diplomat, and philanthropist, 'to promote science and art for the benefit of mankind'. Born 1887 in Germany, Dr Wolf emigrated to Cuba, and in 1961 was appointed Cuban Ambassador to Israel where he lived until his death 20 years later.

## News from associated organizations of IUPAC

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### **International Council for Scientific and Technical Information (ICSTI). Highlights of the winter committee meetings 10–11 January 1998, ICSTI Headquarters, Paris**

Once again the Winter meetings were well attended with a total of 28 participants. The discussions, which covered a wide spectrum of topics, were enlightening and provided a truly international forum with representatives from seven countries: France, Japan, the Netherlands, Russia, South Africa, UK and USA.

The participants discussed the current and future technical programme and acknowledged the increasing

importance of policy over technical issues. This trend must be reflected in the activity programme to respond better to the expectations of ICSTI members. They heard a report from David Lide on recent developments in the USA on database protection, and a presentation by Christine Deschamps President of EFLA. They discussed ways of enlarging the membership. They agreed on the discussion topics for the next General Assembly and on the slate for election of the new Executive Board.

### *Technical programme*

#### *Current projects*

- The pilot project on access to telematics facilities in the Eastern Caribbean, which was jointly sponsored by six international organizations including UNESCO, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and ICSTI, has entered its final phase. ICSTI will deliver the final project evaluation report to UNESCO by 31 January 1998, and Elliot Siegel, project coordinator, will give a final report to ICSTI at the 1998 General Assembly.
- The project to establish a unified alphabetical finding list of terms used in physics with references to all current classification schemes, and to mount the schemes and the list on the ICSTI Website is being pursued by John T. Scott. VINITI will provide technical support.
- The cooperative project with the ISSN International Centre, which aims to add information on A&I services to the ISSN Register, has been pursued with tests on ISSN matching between members' databases and the ISSN Register, and the results are very encouraging. All members concerned are invited to send their tapes to Slawek Rozenfeld, Head of the Computer Section (rozenfeld@issn.org). Suzanne Santiago indicated that she will leave the ISSN International Centre to take up the position of Director of ABES, the National Agency for the French Academic Bibliographic Network. She confirmed, nevertheless, the commitment of the ISSN Centre to cooperate with ICSTI.
- Concerning the Multilingual Thesaurus of Geosciences, it was indicated that it will not be mounted on the Web at this stage because IUGS/COGEOINFO expects to finance longer term maintenance of the MT from licences for its use in specific applications. A small sample will be mounted on the Web for promotion purposes and this could be linked to the ICSTI Website.
- The comparative study of access to journals through subscriptions and document delivery has been finalized and the report is available on the ICSTI

Website.

- The results of the survey of ICSTI members on their use of electronic networks presented at the last General Assembly are available on the private page of the ICSTI Website.

#### *New projects*

- In response to a need expressed by several members at the last General Assembly, a survey aimed at obtaining information on end-user needs and expectations of network-based products and services has been proposed. Wubbo Tempel and Henk Compier have set up the methodology and prepared a questionnaire which will be distributed to members for follow-up action.
- A proposal to develop a joint classification scheme for the Life Sciences has been further examined by Joan Thorne at BIOSIS UK. Because of the diversity of the existing schemes, it is unlikely that a common scheme can be created, but an alternative might be a look up file in which users could enter a concept of interest and be directed to where that concept might be found in member services. An exploratory meeting among interested members has been scheduled for February 1998 in Paris. If the proposal meets with their agreement and commitment, it will be put forward for consideration as a formal ICSTI project at the next General Assembly.

#### *Information policy issues*

John Anderson chaired the first meeting of the Information Policy Committee. All discussions and comments highlighted the growing importance of information policy issues and the need to set up a working procedure so as to monitor them and take action.

A working document which has been mounted on the private page of the ICSTI Website includes a glossary of terms, and a matrix of members' attributes aimed to provide quick reference to appropriate organizations on a given question. Members are invited to check their entry and ask for changes if necessary.

Two proposals were examined:

- one for a cooperation between ICSTI and CENDI, the US Federal STI managers interagency working group, to cover better STI management issues and linking to related sites. They suggest information sharing through a cooperative agreement whereby they would focus on US sites while ICSTI would focus on Europe and other areas. This proposal will be followed up by both Secretariats.
- the other for a discussion session during the next General Assembly, proposed by Sumio Horiuchi of JST, on the problems raised by restructuring in the information industry. This proposal was accepted.

#### *Discussion session*

##### *Recent developments in copyright legislation*

Attention was drawn to the report provided by Dan Wilde on behalf of the Committee on Legal Issues. This report has been mounted on the private page of the ICSTI Website.

David Lide gave a presentation on recent developments in the USA. He recalled that following deferral of the draft treaty on intellectual property in databases at the WIPO diplomatic conference held in December 1996, WIPO convened an information meeting in September 1997 to discuss possible further action. The consensus of the meeting was that the issue of *sui generis* database protection was not ready for WIPO actions and that further deliberations were needed.

New draft legislation was introduced in the House of Representatives in October 1997. The proposed bill\* entitled 'Collections of Information Antipiracy Act' (H.R. 2652) is raising less opposition within the library and scientific communities, as it drops the *sui generis* database protection in favour of other concepts. It should be noted that the Registrar of Copyrights has expressed a need for database protection in the 'Report on legal protection for databases' to be found on the Library of Congress Website at:

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/copyright/more.html#rpt>

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) has issued a statement on intellectual property protection for databases which explains the AAAS position against *sui generis* intellectual property rights proposals. The text can be found at:

<http://www.aaas.org/spp/dspp/sfri/aaasdb.htm>

On the European scene, David Russon indicated that the European Union has issued a draft directive on Copyright and Related Rights in the Information Society. The full text can be found at:

<http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/dg15/en/intprop/intprop/1100.html†>

##### *Presentation on IFLA*

Christine Deschamps, who is the new President of IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions), presented the structure and activities of IFLA which aims at international cooperation in all fields of library activities. Details can be found at:

<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/ifla/>

There are several areas where cooperation could be established between IFLA and ICSTI. In the area of electronic archives, IFLA has a project with FID and ICA, and is involved in a draft standard being developed by ISO/TC 46. IFLA is also involved in issues of pay-

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\*Copy available from Secretariat.

†The repetition of 'intprop' is not an error!

ment for electronic information through two of its committees: one on legal matters and the other on freedom of access to information and freedom of expression.

It was agreed that the two organizations would establish communication and exchange of information to find a common agenda of actions.

#### *Annual meetings*

##### *1998 General Assembly*

As announced on several occasions the 1998 General Assembly will be held on 21–25 May at Loch Lomond, near Glasgow. It is hosted by the British Library supported by BIOSIS UK. It will include three discussion sessions on the following topics:

- Development of electronic libraries, organized by David Russon;
- Restructuring in information industry, organized by Surnio Horiuchi;
- Recent developments in description of information items, organized by Eamon Fennessy.

The meeting package will be dispatched at the beginning of February.

##### *1999 General Assembly*

An invitation to host the 1999 General Assembly in Taipei, Taiwan, has been extended by the Science and Technology Information Center (STIC). The Executive Board made a recommendation to accept the invitation.

## **Federation of the European Chemical Societies**

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6th-FECS-Conference-on-Chemistry-and-the-Environment: Atmospheric Chemistry and Air pollution (VOC, oxidants/Nox and Particulates) 26–28 August 1998, Copenhagen Denmark.

### **Scope of the conference**

The purpose of the conference is to bring together scientists and others from different areas within atmospheric chemistry and air pollution research and control in order to discuss current knowledge and future developments.

The main topics will include:

- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Oxidants, including ozone and NO<sub>x</sub>
- Particulate matter

On each of these main topics there will be sessions on the following subtopics:

- Anthropogenic and biogenic sources of emissions

and exposures, pollution prevention, standards and regulations

- Measurements/monitoring of air quality and air emissions
- Atmospheric chemistry and fate of chemicals
- Effects of air pollutants on vegetation and human health

Modeling is considered an integral part of each topic.

#### *Plenary lectures*

Laboratory studies of hydrocarbon reactions of importance in regional air quality. *A. R. Ravishankara, NOAA, USA*

The future role of chemistry in air pollution modeling. *William R. Stockwell, Fraunhofer Institute, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany*

Physical and chemical characterization of particulate matter emissions from air pollution sources. *Glenn Gass, Caltech, USA*

Studies of processes affecting airborne particulate matter: Source and ambient air. *Roy Harrison, University of Birmingham, U.K.*

Secondary environmental chemicals: sources, fate and impact of haloacetic acids. *Hartmut Frank, Univ. Bayreuth, Germany*

Atmospheric chemistry of selected automotive fuels and fuel additives. *T. J. Wallington, Ford Motor Co, Detroit, USA*

NMHC climatology in Northern Europe. *Anne Lindskog, WL, Gothenburg, Sweden*

Gas-particle partitioning and particle formation from secondary aerosols. *Richard Kamens, Univ. NC, Chapel Hill, USA*

Sampling and analysis of biogenic hydrocarbons in air—an overview. *Bo Larsen, JRC, Ispra, Italy*

Deposition of ozone to plant canopies—Mechanisms and effects. *Helge Ro-Poulsen, Copenhagen University, Denmark*

Laboratory studies of aldehyde and ketone reactivity. *Claus J. Nielsen, Oslo University, Norway*

Risk of cancer and exposure to gasoline vapors. *Elsebeth Lynge, Danish Cancer Society, Copenhagen, Denmark*

Monitoring airborne particulates—new CEN standards. *T. van der Meulen, RIVM, Bilthoven, the Netherlands*

## **70th Birthday of Wolfgang Fritsche**

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Dr Wolfgang Fritsche CChem HonFRSC, Honorary Life President of FECS, celebrated his 70th birthday on 11 March 1998. A press release issued by the Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker can be accessed on the internet at <http://www.gdch.de/pubrelat/wpd0698.htm>

**112th AOAC International Annual Meeting and Exposition, 13–17 September 1998, Montréal, Quebec, Canada**

*Scheduled program topics*

- Analytical Assessments to Assure Consistency and Biological Equivalence of Biotechnology Derived Products
- Application of LCIMS and CEIMS for Food Analysis
- Capillary Electrophoresis/HPLC
- ELISA Methodology and Food Testing
- Implementation of ICH Validation of Analytical Procedures for Pharmaceuticals
- Laboratory Management Issues
- Measurement of Moisture in Oils
- New Trends in Sample Preparation Techniques
- Quality Assurance in the Analytical Laboratory
- Regulatory Issues Related to Maple Sap, Maple Syrup, and Maple Sap/Syrup Products
- Parasitology in Water and Foodborne Pathogens (Cyclospora, Cryptosporidium, and Toxoplasmosis)

Numerous poster sessions will give participants the chance to talk with presenters one-on-one.

The always popular Regulatory Roundtable (with a focus on rapid methods of food analysis to supplement complex instrumental analysis in 1998) brings representatives from regulatory agencies worldwide to talk about upcoming programs and to meet in small groups to answer questions, learn about the concerns of the technical community and discuss issues in depth.

*Laboratory exposition*

The Expo will showcase the latest in laboratory equipment and services.

*Training courses*

These continuing education opportunities are scheduled before and after the meeting. Courses may include:

- Quality Assurance for Analytical Laboratories
- Quality Assurance for Microbiological Laboratories
- Implementing Good Laboratory Practices
- Basic Statistics for Analytical Science
- Statistics for Method Development
- Intralaboratory Analytical Method Validation
- ISO9000, ISO/IEC Guide 25, and the laboratory

For more information contact the AOAC International Meetings and Education Department by Phone: toll-free +1 800 379 2622 from North America only, +1 301 924 7077 world-wide; Fax: +1 301 924 7089; or Internet email: [meetings@aoac.org](mailto:meetings@aoac.org) or the AOAC web site: <http://www.aoac.org> for regularly updated information on the meeting.

**New books**

*Japanese Language Translation of Quality Assurance Principles for Analytical Laboratories*

AOAC International has announced the publication of a new book, the Japanese language translation of *Quality Assurance Principles for Analytical Laboratories* written by Frederick M. Garfield. The translation was prepared by a member of AOAC, Makoto Miyahara of the National Institute of Health Sciences, Japan.

This handbook provides guidelines and specific recommendations for initiating or improving a laboratory quality assurance (QA) program. It also provides justification for commitment of resources toward improved laboratory operations.

The book draws on published principles, practices, guidelines, and procedures used by many organizations—and includes illustrations of forms, reliable practices, procedures, and information used by several US federal agencies.

This edition contains a chapter on statistical applications and analytical control charting which calls attention to how these techniques can be used in a QA program, and an appendix that provides criteria which can be used by laboratories for self-evaluation of their QA programs.

The cost of the 188 page softcover book is \$155 in North America (USA, Canada, Mexico) and \$172 outside North America, with a 10% discount for members of AOAC International.

For more information, or to order the Japanese Language translation of *Quality Assurance Principles for Analytical Laboratories*, contact AOAC International by Tel.: +1 301 924 7077, fax: +1 301 924 7089, Internet: [pubsales@aoac.org](mailto:pubsales@aoac.org), or mail: 481 North Frederick Avenue, Suite 500, Gaithersburg, MD 20877-2417, USA.

*Dietary fiber analysis and applications*

AOAC International has announced the publication of a new book, *Dietary Fiber Analysis and Applications*, by Sungsoo Cho (Kellogg Company), Jonathan W. DeVries (General Mills, Inc.), and Leon Prosky (Retired, US Food and Drug Administration).

This manual provides up-to-date information on the chemical properties of dietary fiber and reliable analytical methodology with an emphasis on AOAC® *Official Methods*<sup>SM</sup>. Vital information is presented in a straightforward manner and complex concepts are made simple. Numerous charts, tables, and figures are also employed to provide further illustration of more difficult topics.

The information contained in this manual will help analytical chemists select and use the most appropriate methods and techniques in analyzing food samples. It will also help nutritionists, food scientists, and health

professionals interpret dietary fiber data derived from such analysis.

The cost of the 202 page softcover book is \$83 in North America (USA, Canada, Mexico) and \$100 outside North America, with a 10% discount for members of AOAC International.

*For more information, or to order Dietary Fiber Analysis and Applications, contact AOAC International by phone: +1 301 924 7077, fax: +1 301 924 7089, Internet: [aoac@aoac.org](mailto:aoac@aoac.org), or mail: 481 North Frederick Avenue, Suite 500, Gaithersburg, MD 20877-2417 USA.*

## HUGO SCHIFF INTERNATIONAL 'Store House': Florence, Italy.

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The 'Hugo Schiff International Storehouse' is a project of the Laboratory of Educational Research of the Department of Chemistry at the University of Florence. The plan will become finalized with the restructuring of the 'GreatHall' of the Chemistry Department at the University of Florence. In essence, this will serve as an international centre for the 'History of Chemistry'.

The H. Schiff Store House, according to our projections, will become a multimedia opportunity, designed for the educational use of telematic communications in the World Wide Web, particularly aimed at communicating the History of Chemical Science and Technology. Thus, the Hugo Schiff Great Hall, rather than being abandoned following the transfer of the Chemical Institute to the Sixth Campus in the suburbs of Florence, will become a cultural and scientific centre. A place of international reference for the study and research of multiple historical-cultural relations that link the city of Florence to the history of Chemistry, even prior to the traditions of alchemy—and on a world level. The Store House, named after Hugo Schiff (1834-1915), the famous chemist who founded the Chemical Institutes of Florence, will thus become a place of historical-scientific research, with a strong educative aspect, including a 'Virtual Museum and International Multimedia Archive'. The use of telematic distance education will help realize innovative didactics and bibliographies, adapted to the cognitive and historical scientific aspects of chemistry.

LRE initiated the promotion of the Hugo Schiff Store House project, in order to begin documenting the works of H. Schiff. Research was begun in 1984, the year in which we initiated a historiographic investigation of the scientific activities of the Schiff brothers Hugo (chemist) and Maurice (naturalist), who both lived in Florence for years, in addition a Convention for the 150th anniversary of H. Schiff's birthday (25 October 1884) was organized, in collaboration with the University of Florence, the Italian Chemical Society, the town council and province of Florence, and the Tuscany Region. Following

the conference, we proposed the idea of founding a Hugo Schiff Storehouse.

Discussions are being held with the Chemical Heritage Foundation (see: <http://www.chemheritage.org/>), with the goal of developing a close collaboration between Europe and the USA on the Hugo Schiff Store House International project. CHF has shown interest in this idea. They have invited Dr Paolo Manzelli, the coordinator of the Laboratory of Educational Research at the University of Florence, to Philadelphia, PA, USA. The purpose of the visit will be to detail the criteria of an eventual collaboration on the project, that is foreseen to unfold at the convention of the History of Chemistry, to be held in the year 2000, the year of the Jubilee, for which we have already gained the approval of the Commission for Cultural Events of the Town Council of Florence.

*For further information contact: Prof. Dr Paolo Manzelli, Direttore del Laboratorio di Ricerca Educativa, Facolta' di Scienze Mat. Fis. e Nat., Universita' degli Studi di Firenze, Tel.: + 39-55-332549, Fax: + 39-55-354845, E-mail: [Ire@chim1.unifi.it](mailto:Ire@chim1.unifi.it), <http://www.chim1.unifi.it/group/education>*

## New books from IUPAC

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### *Introduction to Chemical Nomenclature*

This book arose out of the convictions that IUPAC nomenclature needs to be made as accessible as possible to teachers and students alike, and that there is an absence of relatively complete accounts of the IUPAC 'colour' books suited to school and undergraduate audiences. This is not to decry in any way the efforts of organisations such as the Association for Science Education (ASE) in the UK, but what we wished to produce was a version of IUPAC rules that would be relatively complete and allow the beginner to explore and learn about nomenclature as much or as little as desired.

It is hoped that this volume will more than cover all the nomenclature requirements of students at pre-University and early undergraduate levels in most countries. It should also enable University students and teachers to learn the basic principles of nomenclature methods so that they can apply them accurately and with confidence. It will probably be too advanced for school students, but should be useful for their teachers.

### *Compendium on Analytical Nomenclature*

The first edition of the *Compendium on Analytical Nomenclature* was published in 1977, as a result of the pioneering work of the editors, H.M.N.H. Irving, H. Freiser and T.S. West. It was a collection of all those reports on analytical nomenclature which had been accepted by

the competent IUPAC bodies and published in Pure and Applied Chemistry between 1960 and 1976 (one in 1978), a total of 23 reports.

In the Preamble to the first edition the editors devoted a whole section to ideas and recommendations concerning the standardization of nomenclature. The contents of this section are still useful for all those who are committed to the standardization of symbols and terms to be used in analytical chemistry.

The second edition of the Compendium was published in 1987, in which the chapters were revised, supplemented or replaced by the reports on nomenclature (11) which had appeared between 1976 and 1984.

The manuscript was prepared by H. Freiser and G.H. Nancollas. The original format and structure of the first edition was kept, including the useful alphabetical index of terms.

In 1992, A. Hulanicki, President of the Division of Analytical Chemistry of IUPAC initiated a comprehensive revision of the Compendium, because of the great number of reports on nomenclature that appeared in the early 90s, due to the acceleration of the work within the commissions.

In the last decade the demand for new analytical procedures has increased steadily and at the same time the diversity of the techniques has expanded and the quality and performance characteristics of the procedures have come to be a focus of interest. New types of instrumental and automatic techniques have emerged and computerization has taken over. The scope of analytical chemistry has been widened as the question to be answered was not only the chemical composition of the sample, but also the structure, of substances, and changes in composition and structure in space and time.

In step with the revolutionary development of analytical chemistry the use of these analytical procedures—as tools yielding chemical information on material—has become indispensable in nearly all fields of human activities, including research, development, production and service.

The widespread application of analytical methods has called for scientific and universal regulation of the terms used, for the sake of uniformity, for understandability and for straightforward communication between experts in the most diverse fields.

For the above reasons the Analytical Division Committee of IUPAC has instituted and supported this revision of the Compendium. A Working Party for the revision was established from those who had the responsibility of preparing the drafts and the final text for publication. In addition, each Commission delegated a 'coordinator' whose responsibility was to mediate between the Working party and their Commission.

### *Nonlinear Spectroscopy for Molecular Structure Determination*

Since its advent in 1960, the laser has played many very important roles in molecular spectroscopy. At present it would be almost impossible to find a laboratory that investigates molecular structure and dynamics which is not equipped with any lasers. Even in the early period of the development of laser applications, scientists realized that the most remarkable characteristics of laser light are coherence, high power density and high spectral purity. These are the ideal characteristics for the observation of nonlinear phenomena. Nonlinear spectroscopy, made feasible by lasers, has proved to be an extremely powerful tool for molecular structure studies. It allows us to examine new aspects of molecular processes in detail and to determine molecular parameters orders of magnitude more precisely and rapidly than with conventional light sources.

A large variety of nonlinear spectroscopic methods have so far been developed and applied to studies of molecular structure and dynamics. Some of these methods utilize complex techniques, making it difficult to understand the underlying principles. Furthermore, most of these methods are referred to by nicknames or acronyms, which keeps them shrouded in mystery for most non-specialists who are thereby discouraged from mastering and applying the methods to molecular systems.

Under these circumstances it was judged appropriate and timely to overview those nonlinear spectroscopic methods which are currently particularly useful for studies of molecular structure and dynamics. Thus, the Commission on Molecular Structure and Spectroscopy of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry decided to publish a book, intended to provide an introduction to nonlinear spectroscopy for non-specialists.

The first chapter of the book is devoted to introduction of the basic principle of coherent interaction of the laser light field with molecules including higher-order nonlinear effects. This chapter is intended to minimize difficulties which readers might face in understanding the following chapters. Chapters 2 through 10 present nine kinds of laser spectroscopic methods which elucidate the structure and dynamics of excited molecules, chemically reactive species, molecules in liquids or on surfaces, and so on. Each chapter describes first the underlying principle of the method and its typical experimental setup in order to allow a clear understanding by readers who are not familiar with laser spectroscopy. In the remaining part of each chapter, several typical examples of the application are given together with the current status of the method.

*Nonlinear Spectroscopy for Molecular Structure Determination. Authors: R.W. Field, E. Hirota, J.P. Maier, S.*

Tsuchiya (Coordinator). Published by Blackwell Science Ltd. 120 line illustrations. 288 pp. ISSN 0632042176. Price £55.00. February 1998.

*Organic Light-Emitting Materials and Devices, Macromolecular Symposia V125, 1997*

The international symposium on 'Organic Materials and Devices in Display Technologies' was held as part of the 213th ACS National Meeting in San Francisco on 13–15 April 1997. Organic light-emitting diodes (LED) and liquid crystal displays (LCD) were the focus of the symposium. 'Display technology is the final frontier in the information superhighway' was used as the symposium logo. There were 6 oral sessions (46 papers) followed by a poster session (24 papers). 37 papers were from North America (36 from USA, 1 from Canada), 20 from Europe and 13 from Asia. The oral sessions included: (1) tutorial on organic electroluminescence technology; (2) synthesis of organic light emitting materials; (3) new light emitting device concepts; (4) polymeric LED systems; (5) organic materials for LCD applications; (6) stability of organic LEDs. The symposium was very popular, with excellent attendance of 120 to 250 people, indicating a very strong interest in the area.

There were two unique features that distinguished this symposium from most other ACS symposia. First, the participants of the symposium included a mix of chemists, physicists, and engineers, reflecting the highly interdisciplinary nature of organic display technology. Second, about half of the participants were from industry. This is highly unusual for ACS meetings and is in accord with the fact that the number of labs that are involved in this field has increased over the past years.

This volume contains selected symposium papers on the subject of organic electroluminescent (EL) materials and devices. Although this is a relatively new area, there has been tremendous progress made. This is clearly reflected in the papers in this volume. It is now commonly agreed that commercialization of organic LEDs is imminent.

**B. R. Hsieh,  
Webster, New York, June, 1997**

*Surface Modification of Polymers, Macromolecular Symposia V126, 1998*

The Institute of Polymer Research Dresden and the Institute of Macromolecular and Textile Chemistry of the Dresden University of Technology have organized Dresden Polymer Discussions on different topics of polymer science since 1986.

The sixth in this series of discussion meetings held within a limited circle of invited researchers, was held in Meissen near Dresden from April 14 to 17, 1997. It was dedicated to the field 'Surface Modification' and included topics such as:

- Adsorption of functional polymers
- Polyelectrolytes, polyelectrolyte complexes, surfactants
- Ordered thin layers
- Surface characterization
- Polymers in solutions and at interfaces
- Grafting

The meeting assembled more than 40 scientists from 12 countries with researchers from the Dresden institutes. They discussed 30 oral and 25 poster presentations.

Particular attention was paid to the relevance of surface phenomena and surface modification for practical applications. The participation of a number of representatives from industry stimulated discussions in this respect.

Interface phenomena and optimized design of interfaces have been gaining increasing importance in technological processes; however their scientific fundamentals have not yet been established. The gap between advanced theoretical works on the understanding of real systems and processes needs to be pursued in joint efforts.

**Hans-Jorg Jacobasch,  
Symposium Editor, Dresden, July 1997**

*Petro Polymers vs. Green Polymers, Macromolecular Symposia V127, 1998*

The Rolduc Polymer Meeting was organized in 1997 for the 10th time. Over the years this discussion meeting, known for its intensive debates on up to date themes, has acquired both an intimate and an international character. The success of the Rolduc Polymer Meetings is also based on extensive and active participation by industrial researchers and research managers. Due to their contributions, we were able to achieve the integration of Polymer Science and Polymer Technology that was aimed at.

Discussion in society about sustainability, about reproducible natural resources, on fossil resources may well influence the long-term future of polymer materials. The International Organizing Committee of the Rolduc Polymer Meeting therefore decided to organize a thorough discussion on the topic 'Petro(chemical) based Polymers' versus 'Green Polymers'.

For thousands of years nature was the only source of polymeric materials and even at this moment quite a list of natural polymer products is still present on the market (c. g. wool, silk, cotton, cellulose, natural rubber, varnish etc.). We all know the extensive list of synthetic polymers, for the greater part based on fossil hydrocarbons. The latest developments and the 'green character' of both these types of polymer were discussed in two separate sessions.

Some polymers are produced both by industry and by



nature (polyaminoacids, polyesters, casein) and the production of synthetic polymers from 'green monomers' (CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, ethylene etc.) was shown to be well within reach. Finally, combinations of products from both areas may lead to attractive new materials (composites and blends of synthetic and biopolymers, chemically modified green polymers, copolymers and so on). The synergy of 'Petrobased' and 'Green' polymers combinations was intensively discussed.

This volume covers most oral contributions presented at the meeting and some selected poster presentations.

**Ludo Kleintjens, Chairman**

## Received at the Secretariat

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*Nomenclatura de Química Inorgánica,  
Recomencions de 1990*

A Catalan translation of the Nomenclature of Inorganic Chemistry by Enric Casassas i Simó and Joaquim Sales i Cabré. Available from the Institut d'Estudis Catalans, Carrer del Carme 47, ES-08001 Barcelona, Spain.