



## Preface

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This Special Issue contains full papers derived from some of the plenary lectures and oral presentations as well as Notes arising from poster presentations at the 13th International Microencapsulation Symposium, held in Angers, France between 5 and 7 September 2001. The papers reflect the current developments in the use of microencapsulation in human, veterinary and textile fields.

The major aspects of this issue include microcapsules, microspheres, nanoparticles, liposomes, lipid nanoparticles and hollow tubes. Different production methods, properties, characterization and analysis are discussed in this multidisciplinary approach. Because of their unique properties and the flexibility of the manufacturing processes involved, microparticulate systems are expected to continue to play a major role in controlled release systems.

The plenary lectures are supported by the oral and poster presentations to give an up-to-date overview of the recent developments in this field. We believe that these manuscripts compiled in

this special issue will contribute to future studies applying microencapsulation to the development of new pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, veterinary, agricultural and textile products.

I wish to thank the program chairs, Professor Dr Jean-Pierre Benoit, Dr Joel Richards and Professor Dr Curt Thies for organizing this fruitful meeting. I wish to thank Professor Florence and Elsevier for giving the opportunity to publish the proceedings of the meeting. I also want to thank the authors of the papers as without their contributions this work would not be available to those who are interested in this growing multidisciplinary area.

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