J Appl Electrochem (2010) 40:1029–1030
DOI 10.1007/s10800-010-0100-3

EDITORIAL

Foreword

Alexandra B. Ribeiro

Received: 1 February 2010 / Accepted: 1 February 2010

The 8th Symposium on Electrokinetic Remediation (EREM 2009) was held on July 26–29, 2009, in Lisbon, Portugal (http://events.fct.unl.pt/erem2009). The EREM 2009 provided an opportunity for a wide number of international experts to discuss the state-of-the-art in electrokinetics, their new advances and trends.

Electrokinetic transport processes are used in civil, geotechnical and environmental engineering to remove organic and inorganic contaminants from soils and other porous materials, as well as for matrix repairing and maintenance purposes. Examples of their broad application are the restoration of polluted sites, tidelands, and agricultural soils, the management and valorisation of industrial wastes, subsurface containment and remediation barriers like electrokinetic fences and biofences, the desalination and radionuclide removal from concrete, the recovery of nutrients, and their combination with other technologies (e.g., bio- and phyto-remediation).

The EREM Symposiums started in Europe, in 1997, taking place every 2 years at different Universities and Research Centers: École des Mines d'Albi (Albi, France, 1997); Technical University of Denmark (Lyngby, Denmark, 1999); Karlsruhe University (Karlsruhe, Germany, 2001); Belgian Nuclear Research Centre (Mol, Belgium, 2003); University of Ferrara (Ferrara, Italy, 2005); University of Vigo (Vigo, Spain, 2007). In 2008, due to the growing worldwide interest, EREM started to be held outside Europe in even years, and was organized by Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, among others (Seoul, Korea). The latest EREM symposium was held by New University of Lisbon (Lisbon, Portugal, 2009).

The organizers of the EREM appreciate the large number of high-quality research papers that were presented in the symposium. More than 100 scientists and engineers contributed for the conference from various countries including Algeria, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Denmark, Greece, Finland, France, Germany, India, Italy, Iran, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Malaysia, The Netherlands, Pakistan, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Taiwan, United Arab Emirates, the UK and the USA, reflecting the broad interest in the issue of electrokinetics.

A. B. Ribeiro (✉)
CENSE, Center for Environmental and Sustainability Research, Departamento de Ciências e Engenharia do Ambiente, Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia, Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Caparica, Portugal
e-mail: abr@fct.unl.pt

The conference received the support from *Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia*, *Universidade Nova de Lisboa* (FCT-UNL), Center for Environmental and Sustainability Research (CENSE-FCT-UNL), *Fundação da FCT-UNL* and *Caixa Geral de Depósitos*.

We would like to thank all the contributors to the special issue for sharing their research findings with the readers. We express our sincere thanks to all reviewers for their time and effort in reviewing the manuscripts in this issue. We are all grateful to Gerardine G. Botte, Editor-in-Chief for accepting the proposal of this special issue. We also express a special acknowledgement to Ken Howell, Carolien van der Gaag and Stefan van Dijl for their valuable help in this issue edition.

At last sincere thanks goes to Célia D. Ferreira, Eduardo P. Mateus, Filipa Pico, Ana T. Lima, Conceição Capelo, Ana C. Gomes, Ana Correia and Ricardo Barata for their essential help in the accomplishment of EREM 2009.