

FOREWORD

The *International Ion Chromatography Symposium 1990* (IICS '90) was held at the historic and beautiful Hotel del Coronado in Coronado, CA, U.S.A. from 1–3 October, 1990. IICS '90 was the largest meeting on ion chromatography (IC) yet held and was attended by over 250 scientists from 13 countries and featured 65 oral presentations and 20 posters. In the past, a number of smaller IC conference series have been offered, including the Sils-Maria meetings organized by the late Professor Roland Frei, the Ion Chromatography Forums held in Boston, and other regional meetings. IICS '90 arose as an amalgamation of these conferences and was designed to be a focus meeting for ion chromatographers by bringing together the world leaders in the field and by offering a comprehensive coverage of all aspects of the technique.

The symposium opened with a plenary lecture by Dr. Hamish Small, who presented a personal account of the historical development of IC. The remainder of the symposium agenda was organized around nine session topics, which included detection, stationary phases and separations, sample handling methods, ion-exclusion chromatography, gradient elution, post-column reaction detection, and applications. One novel feature of the technical program was the dedication of a session to the area of inorganic capillary electrophoresis. The scientific sessions were opened with review lectures presented by internationally renowned experts in IC.

A highlight of the meeting was the recognition of two scientists for their outstanding contributions to the development of the methodology of IC. The recipients of achievement awards were Dr. Petr Jandik, Manager of Ion Analysis R&D at the Waters Chromatography Division of Millipore, and Dr. Christopher Pohl, Technical Director of Polymer Chemistry at Dionex Corporation. Dr. Jandik presented a keynote lecture on "Optimization of detection sensitivity in the capillary electrophoresis of inorganic ions", whilst Dr. Pohl gave a keynote lecture on "Development of moderate capacity pellicular ion-exchange packing materials for ion chromatography".

IICS '90 was a highly successful and stimulating meeting, due chiefly to the originality and quality of the technical presentations and the lively contributions of other participants. I would like to thank the members of the scientific committee (G. K. Bonn, R. M. Cassidy, J. S. Fritz, D. T. Gjerde, P. Jandik, J. D. Lamb, D. J. Pietrzyk, G. Schmuckler, H. Small and J. R. Stillian) for their valuable contributions to the design of the symposium. Special thanks are also due to Janet Strimaitis of Century International for the superb organization of the meeting, and to Dr. Erich Heftmann of the *Journal of Chromatography* for his meticulous efforts in editing the proceedings volume. On behalf of all attendees of the symposium, I would also like to express my appreciation to the joint corporate sponsors, Dionex Corporation and Waters Chromatography Division of Millipore, for the provision of financial support. We look forward to IICS '91, to be held in the Denver area under the chairmanship of John D. Lamb of Brigham Young University.

Kensington, Sydney (Australia)

PAUL R. HADDAD
Symposium Chairman