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## Foreword

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The *10th International Symposium on High Performance Capillary Electrophoresis and Related Microscale Techniques, HPCE Kyoto*, was held 8–11 July 1997 in Kyoto, one of the most well known and attractive cities in Japan. HPCE Kyoto, held at the Kyoto Institute of Technology located in the northern part of the city, was an extra mid-term meeting between HPCE '97 and HPCE '98.

It was the first time in the HPCE series that a meeting was held in Asia. Total participants were 265, including 79 from 18 foreign countries. Travel grants were provided for 12 foreign students. At the conference itself 151 scientific papers were presented; 55 oral and 96 poster presentations. Instrument companies provided five instrumental and ten catalogue exhibitions, and three workshops. Although the size of the meeting was not as large as those of the regular meeting series, the papers were of equally high quality and exciting for both new and frequent participants of HPCE meetings.

HPCE Kyoto provided a great opportunity to the new participants mostly from Asian countries to obtain the latest information on the advances in every field related to CE. The participants did not have to miss any of the papers, since no parallel sessions were provided. HPCE Kyoto offered more than just science. We had the near-record rain in

Kyoto during the conference, possibly due to the influence of *El Niño*. In the week following the conference, however, Kyoto's usual summer weather arrived and those who stayed were able to enjoy the sights and pleasant environs of Kyoto.

HPCE Kyoto was organized with the help of the Japan Discussion Group of Electrophoretic Analysis, the Japan Society for Analytical Chemistry. We are deeply grateful for the devoted help of Dr. Koji Otsuka, the Secretary General. The assistance of the Scientific Advisory Committee is also appreciated. HPCE Kyoto thanks the Kyoto Institute of Technology for permitting the use of the Center Hall for the Conference, and also for the assistance of many individuals, particularly staff members and students of both the Kyoto Institute of Technology and the Himeji Institute of Technology. We are grateful to Dr. Zdenek Deyl for his excellent work in editing this symposium volume. Last, but not least, thanks are given to the Commemorative Association for the Japan World Exposition (1970) and to Asahi Glass Foundation for their financial support. We look forward to seeing everyone in future HPCE symposia.

*Kyoto (Japan)*

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