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Preface

The Joint 5th International Symposium on Capillary Electrophoresis and 2nd International Symposium on Capillary Electrochromatography, organised and supported by the Chromatographic Society, the British Electrophoresis Society, the Californian Separation Science Society and the University of York, took place in York from 26-28 August, 1998.

All the scientific activities of the meeting were held in the Exhibition Centre at the University of York. The Welcome Reception and Buffet was enjoyed in the unusual surroundings of the reconstructed ancient shopping streets within the Castle Museum. The Symposium Dinner took place in the glittering surrounds of the Assembly Rooms, which earlier in the year had been refurbished to host the council of Finance Ministers of the European Union. This building was originally erected for the gaming, wining, dining, courting and other social activities of the eighteenth century gentry during the summer season in the country. With a little imagination it was easy to transpose oneself into such grandeur. The delegates thereby had an introduction to the two aspects of the rich history of the City.

Over 170 participants were present, 16 oral presentations and 57 posters were given and exhibits of capillary electrophoresis instrumentation and supplies were shown by 8 companies. The high quality of the presentations, the compact site for poster exhibition and lectures and the informal atmosphere of the meeting all contributed to the success of the symposium.

I should like to express my thanks to members of the Scientific Committee: Dr Chris Bevan (Glaxo-Wellcome Research & Development), Dr Marcella Chiari (CNR, Milan), Dr Brian Clark (School of Pharmacy, University of Bradford), Dr Michael Dunn (National Heart and Lung Institute), Dr David Lloyd (McGill University, Montreal), Dr David Perrett (St Bartholomew's Medical College, London), Dr Peter Myers (Phase Separations) and Dr Stephen Wren (Zeneca Pharmaceuticals).

As this is the last occasion on which I have responsibility for the organisation of the CE events in York, I should wish to take the opportunity to express my thanks particularly to David Goodall, without whose vision, enthusiasm and sheer hard work the symposia could and would not exist and to all those behind the scenes, including Dr Annie Hodgson, Mrs May Price and Mrs Alison Akehurst, for all their work in ensuring the smooth running of the event. I am also grateful to Professor Zdenek Deyl for organising and editing this volume. My final and deepest thanks are reserved for Mrs Jean Scott whose organisational abilities as symposium secretary have ensured the success of the symposium year after year.

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