



## Foreword

The 26<sup>th</sup> *International Symposium on High Performance Liquid Phase Separations and Related Techniques* (HPLC 2002) was held in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, 2–7 June 2002. The total number of attendees was 1215 including 915 delegates and 300 exhibitors. Two thirds of the delegates (602) came from industry, 154 from academia/government and 159 were graduate and postgraduate students. The delegates reflected the global impact of the symposium series coming from 42 different countries including representatives from Africa, Asia, the Middle East, the Indian sub-continent and South America.

Richard Pound, Chairman of the World Anti-Doping Agency opened the Scientific Program with an address entitled “Drug testing in athletes”. This was followed by 26 podium sessions with 125 oral presentations; 25 (20%) of the presenters were students. The program was lead by plenary sessions on “Genomics, Proteomics and Beyond”, “LC-NMR”, “Proteomics” and a special “Göran Schill Memorial Session”; Professor Schill was one of the founding members of the HPLC series and made numerous and profound contributions to separation science. Other sessions included “Analytical Biology: Application of Separation Science to Cellular Biology and Biochemistry”, “Analytical Biochemistry/Pharmacology”, “Recognition Chromatography”, “Biodiversity”, “Basic Separation Science”, “Environmental Analysis”, “Monolithic Stationary Phases” and “Separation Science as a Diagnostic Tool”.

As with other meetings, the real heart of the symposium was the poster sessions. There were four poster sessions encompassing 20 topical areas and including 660 presentations. The scientific levels of

the presentations were extremely high and the “Poster Awards Committee”, headed by Ron Majors had difficulty selecting the recipients of the ten student posters awards (sponsored by Elsevier) and the three best poster awards (sponsored by Agilent Technologies).

In addition to the regular scientific program, the meeting included six short courses attended by 442 delegates. This included a phenomenal 173 attendees at the course on “Fast LC in Pharmaceutical Analysis and High-Throughput Screening” taught by Michael Dong and Zhengrong Kong and 11 participants in the French language course “Électrophorèse Capillaire” presented by Karen Waldron. The meeting also included a Vendors Exhibition with 64 participants and there were nine lunch-time Vendor Seminars covering recent technical and scientific advances.

The meeting was held in the most beautiful city in North America and the delegates took advantage of the excellent weather and wonderful ambience. In addition to the city of Montreal, itself, and the marvellous restaurants, 179 delegates participated in Walking Tour of Old Montreal and 209 attended the Symposium Dinner. The latter event included a disc jockey and dancing until midnight and karaoke singing led by the Italian delegation.

HPLC 2002 received a number of corporate and organizational grants including support from the Canadian (Health Canada) and Québec (Recherche Science et Technologie Québec) Governments. With this support, the meeting was not only a scientific success, but also a financial one. HPLC 2002 produced a profit of \$ 50 000 CAN. The HPLC 2002 Local Organizing Committee has used this money to establish the “HPLC 2002 Canadian Student Fellow-

ship”. There will be 25 fellowships of \$ 2000 CAN each awarded to students at Canadian Universities for attendance at future HPLC meeting. Further information about this program can be obtained from Professor Jack Rosenfeld who can be reached at Rosenfel@mcmaster.ca, or from myself at wainerir@grc.nia.nih.gov.

On behalf of the Local Organizing Committee I

would like to thank all of the delegates and industrial, Government and Society sponsors for making HPLC 2002 a scientific and social success. We look forward to seeing you in Nice, France at HPLC 2003.

*Baltimore, MD, USA*

Irving W. Wainer  
Chairman, HPLC 2002