

Foreword

The 24th *International Symposium on Separation and Analysis of Proteins, Peptides and Polynucleotides* (ISPPP 2004) was held in Aachen, Germany. For the first time we organized a joint day together with the *Symposium on Preparative and Industrial Chromatography and Allied Techniques* (SPICA). The common interest was of course the preparative separation of biomolecules. Interesting insight was given on the fundamentals of chromatography, methods for parameter estimation, scale up issues and case studies. The joint part was very well attended and a lively discussion and scientific debate after the presentations took place. Chromatography became the most important method for all separation tasks in biotechnology, analytical separations, as well as preparative and industrial scale separations. Novel media are currently developed. Separation principles are thoroughly investigated

by academics; often in cooperation with industry. Case studies impressively demonstrated the separation power of these new media. The second and third days focus was on novel methods in proteomics, biomarker identification, novel strategies for biomolecule separation. After such a successful meeting I want to thank all speakers, all scientific board members for their help and input. The excellent management of the conference local organizer, DECHEMA is highly appreciated. I am convinced that the next ISPPP symposium will be also a success. I want to invite you on behalf of the Chairman Dr. Josef DeStefano to St. Peterburg Beach, FL, USA. The conference will be held from 6 to 9 November 2005.

Vienna, Austria

A. Jungbauer