



Foreword

The 25th International Symposium on Microscale BioSeparations, MSB 2010, was held in Prague, Czech Republic, from 21 to 25 March 2010 – www.msb2010.org. Since its start in 1989 (Boston, USA) the Conference, then called HPCE, has attracted key experts and a broad audience interested in capillary separations, microfluidics and bioanalysis. The 25th meeting was organized by the Institute of Analytical Chemistry of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, v.v.i. Over 400 participants from more than 30 countries gathered in Prague, for the first time in the conference history in one of the former Eastern European country.

The symposium opening in the Clarion Congress Hotel included also the *Jaroslav Heyrovský Medal Award ceremony*. The highest chemistry award of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic was presented to the founder of the MSB symposium Prof. Barry L. Karger, (Northeastern University, Boston, USA) by Prof. Vladimír Mareček, vice-president of the Czech Academy of Sciences. The following program included 11 short courses, 80 lectures (including nine plenary) and over 240 posters. Stimulating scientific program covered all aspects of microscale separations, mass spectrometry coupling, hyphenated techniques and micro/nanofluidics.

Special sessions covered fundamentals and instrumentation as well as applications related to systems biology, biotech/pharmaceutical sciences and/or clinical diagnostics.

The MSB conferences have always provided a comfortable place for meeting the leaders in the field, exchange of knowledge and getting practical advices. The social program included the welcome party and the Symposium Dinner organized in the Rudolf's Foundry Restaurant located in the place of the former alchemist laboratories of the Holy Roman Emperor Rudolf II at the Prague Castle.

As the chair of the symposium I wish to thank all the participants, exhibitors and company sponsors as well as all who worked hard behind the scene for the success of the meeting. In particular I want to recognize the members of the Organizing Committee: Petr Bocek, Bob Gas, Vaclav Kasicka, Karel Kleparnik, Ludmila Kri-vankova, Marek Minarik and Ivan Miksik.

The Symposium was closed with an invitation to attend the next MSB organized by Annelise Barron in San Diego (2011) and Gerard Rosing in Geneva (2012).

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