



Foreword

The 34th International Symposium on Capillary Chromatography (ISCC) and 7th GC × GC Symposium held at the Palazzo dei Congressi in Riva del Garda, Italy, on May 30–June 4, 2010, attracted over 1000 participants from academia and industry. Altogether forty-five countries were represented. Highly professional lectures and presentations dealt with the current state and developing trends in capillary chromatography and electrophoresis, in comprehensive techniques and microfluidic separations, as well as in sampling and sample preparation techniques and hyphenated systems. Environmental, energy/petrochemical/industrial and biomedical/pharmaceutical applications were presented, and analytical methods for natural products, food, flavors, and fragrances were described. Running parallel with the scientific program were workshop seminars offered by instrument manufacturers and an extensive exhibition of instrumentation, accessories, and supplies.

The prestigious Marcel Golay award was granted to Professor Janusz Pawliszyn from the University of Waterloo, Canada, for his pioneering work in miniaturized sample preparation techniques.

At the close of the meeting, the Leslie Ettre Award, in honor of Dr. Leslie Ettre, a pioneer in capillary gas chromatography, was presented to Giorgia Purcaro of the University of Messina, Italy. The award recognizes an outstanding oral or poster contribution from a young scientist (under 35 years of age) in the field of capillary gas chromatography with emphasis on environmental and food applications. Sadly, during the ISCC symposium, news came that Dr. Ettre had passed away peacefully on June 1, 2010.

The Pfizer Analytical Research Center (PARC) awards for innovations in pharmaceutical and biomedical analysis were granted to Walter Eberherr (First Prize) from the Johannes Kepler University, Linz, Austria; to Benjamin Mann (Second Prize) from Indiana University, Bloomington, USA; and to Hamed Eghbali (Third Prize) from the Free University of Brussels, Belgium.

This special issue of the Journal of Chromatography A provides excellent and comprehensive coverage of the Riva del Garda symposiums and will surely inspire many to develop further the methods and techniques needed to propel separation science forward.

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