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Preface

The 6th International Symposium of the European Society of Bio-Chromatography (ESBC) took place on May 13–15, 1997 at the Saarbrücken Campus of the University of Saarland. The symposium chairman and co-chairman were Professors Hans Engelhardt and Klaus K. Unger. Selected papers from this series of meetings are now traditionally published in this Journal, and illustrate the scientific exchange between the French, German and eastern European scientists. This year, in addition to the plenary session presentations by the opinion leaders in several areas of intensive investigations in the field of bioseparations, the remaining sessions were devoted to biopolymers, biological applications, mass spectrometry of biopolymers and capillary electro-

phoresis. Approximately 30 posters were also presented. Affinity chromatography, CE and new developments in MS analysis of proteins and peptides were the dominating topics of this meeting. Owing to their size and informal atmosphere these symposia provide a convenient frame for contributions from young scientists who often have a hard time in obtaining sufficient attention at large meetings.

The Scientific Committee should be congratulated for the selection of topics, and the University of Saarland should be thanked for their hospitality. It is hoped that future meetings will have a continuing success.

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