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## Foreword

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The Eighth Annual Frederick Conference on Capillary Electrophoresis was held at Hood College in Frederick, MD, USA, October 20–22, 1997. The Conference was preceded by a one day Short Course on capillary electrophoresis principles, instrumentation and troubleshooting. This year, for the first time, the conference presented a 3 hour Workshop on “CE Troubleshooting and Method Validation in the Pharmaceutical Industry” by Dr. Kevin Altria of Glaxo Wellcome, which was very informative.

This year there were 128 invited and submitted abstracts, 41 for oral presentations and 87 for poster presentation. The oral presentations were divided into eight sessions. Three each on the first and second days and two on the last day. The afternoon of the last day was devoted to the workshop. About 400 conferees registered for the conference. Major CE instrumentation companies and suppliers exhibited for the first two days of the conference.

This conference, which started in 1990 as a local Eastern United States conference, is becoming an international conference attended by scientists from Europe, Japan, China and Australia, to name a few. This year’s award for outstanding contributions to CE was awarded to Professor Edward S. Yeung of Iowa State University. We wish Professor Yeung continued success and a long and healthy life. As always, Professor Yeung, gave a very exciting presentation dealing with the separation of DNA sequencing fragments up to 1000 bases by using poly(ethyleneoxide)-filled capillary electrophoresis.

Welcoming remarks were made by Dr. G. Muschik, Head, Chemical Synthesis and Analysis Laboratory on behalf of SAIC Frederick, and Dr. Carol Dahl, Director, Strategic Technologies, NCI, and Dr. Haleem J. Issaq, General Chairman, who announced the addition of Dr. Dahl and Professor Horvath to the Scientific Committee.

The oral presentations and the posters dealt with micro fabricated technology for high throughput separations, capillary electrochromatography, non-aqueous CE, separation of carbohydrates, antisense, proteins, peptides, amino acids, DNA (supercoiled and linear), PCR products, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, enantiomers and compounds of biochemical and pharmaceutical interest. Also, a session was devoted to single cell analysis. In addition, basic studies dealing with heat dissipation, effect of column diameter in non-aqueous CE, as well as use of CE for physicochemical studies were presented. All in all, scientifically this was a very exciting and informative conference.

Next year’s conference will be held on October 19–21, 1998 at Hood College. For information contact Margaret Fanning, SAIC Frederick, NCI-FCRDC, Frederick, MD 21702, USA; Fax: (301) 846-5866, e-mail: fanningm@mail.ncifcrf.gov.

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