
Preface

The tremendous impact of biochromatography on the evolution of biosciences, the new title and research orientation of the Society of BioChromatography and Nanoseparations (SBCN formerly ESBC) and the 10th anniversary of the Ecole Supérieure de Technologie des Biomolécules de Bordeaux (Biotechnology Institute of Bordeaux) prompted us to organise the 9th International Symposium on Biochromatography “From nanoseparations to macropurifications” at the Université Victor Segalen Bordeaux 2, France from 5 to 7 May 2004.

The importance of chromatographic approaches and their impact on and development in nanoseparations and macropurifications was brought out by some brilliant lectures in this field. During the symposium, 120 delegates from 11 countries and 5 continents, both academics and members of industry presented their latest work. The highlight of the symposium were the 6 plenary lectures, 32 presentations and 39 posters.

In addition to the highly informative lectures and posters on the latest developments in these areas, this conference also

provided an ideal platform for informal exchange of experiences, much appreciated by the participants. The instrument display which accompanied the symposium demonstrated state-of-the-art technological advances.

It is hoped that this special issue of *Journal of Chromatography*, will be a useful source of information to researchers in this field, and an additional stimulus for the work that remains to be done to develop a better understanding of these intriguing facets of life.

Acknowledgement

We would like to thank all the sponsors, participants and those who helped us to make this event a success.

Bordeaux, France

Xavier Santarelli

22 October 2004

Available online 14 November 2004