



Preface

The International Symposium on Macrocyclic Chemistry was held for the first time in Poland, in the beautiful city of Gdańsk at Gdańsk University of Technology, from 13 to 18 July 2003. The symposium was the 28th of consecutive series of meetings devoted to synthesis and complexation by macrocyclic synthetic or natural receptors. The idea to organize this symposium started in Provo, Utah, USA, twenty-eight years ago and the first meeting was organized by Profs. R.M. Izatt and J.J. Christensen from Brigham Young University. With time the scope of the meetings widened to include all aspects of supramolecular chemistry. The scientific merit of these events was promoted by participation of prominent chemists, such as Nobel 1987 Prize Winners: Profs. J.-M. Lehn, D.J. Cram and C.J. Pedersen, and other famous scientists.

The program of 28th ISMC included plenary (10) and invited lectures (16) given by outstanding, leading chemists from all over the world, symposium lectures (19) and oral presentations (30), as well as a quite large poster session (130 posters). During the meeting the winner of 2003 Izatt–Christensen Award was announced and the prize was presented to Prof. J.K.M. Sanders from Cambridge University, UK. The title of

his excellent Award Lecture was: *The ins and outs of templating: a dynamic future for macrocyclic chemistry*. As Prof. R.M. Izatt this year could not take part in the symposium the prize was presented to the winner by Prof. J.S. Bradshaw from Brigham Young University.

Three posters were chosen to be awarded for their scientific impact and presentations. The presenters of these posters were: Victor Ch. Kravtsov (Republic of Moldova), Vojtěch Kubiček (Czech Republic) and Silvia C. Carvalho (Portugal). The founders of this award are Prof. J.L. Atwood and Prof. G.W. Gokel.

The 28th ISMC was a successful meeting with 250 participants from 23 countries. Here, I acknowledge all the participants for their lectures and posters and for creating an exciting and stimulating atmosphere during the Symposium.

This special issue of the *Journal of Inclusion Phenomena and Macrocyclic Chemistry* contains full papers of selected contributions that were presented at the Symposium.

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Guest Editor