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## Preface

### Proceedings of the Second San Luis Conference on Surface Science and Catalysis

A conference was organized in 1994 in San Luis, Argentina to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the founding of the city of San Luis. That meeting brought together theorists and experimentalists working in the area of surface science, primarily catalysis, to foster international collaborations and interactions, and to expose students working in Latin America to the work of leading international scientists. Thanks to the success of that conference, a Second San Luis Conference (San Luis II), sponsored by the National Science Foundation, was held in Mar del Plata, Argentina, from 3–6 April 2000. In keeping with the spirit of the original conference, international participation was encouraged. A total of about 60 participants attended the conference, coming from the United States, Mexico, Venezuela, Brazil, Argentina, the United Kingdom, France, Italy, and Japan. A number of well-known scientists were asked to lead the discussions by presenting invited oral presentations, and contributions from students were also encouraged both in oral and poster presentations. This special issue of *The Journal of Molecular Catalysis A: Chemical* comprises 25 contributions representative of the work presented and discussed at the conference. It is hoped that the success of the first two conferences will lead to the San Luis Conference becoming a regular event on the scientific scene, and that it will

encourage further collaboration between the scientific communities of Latin America and North America and Europe. We are already planning San Luis III, which we anticipate being held in Venezuela in 2003.

The conference organisers were Celso M. Aldao, Richard M. Lambert, Wilfred T. Tysoe and Giorgio Zgrablich.

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