

New Regional Editor: Professor L. NIINISTÖ



Professor L. Niinistö was born in Helsinki, Finland, in 1941. He graduated with the degree of M. Sc. (Eng.) from the Helsinki University of Technology in 1968. He continued his studies and research towards the doctorate, first in Helsinki and then in 1971–72 at the University of Stockholm. After obtaining the degree of D. Techn. in Helsinki, he served in different teaching positions during 1973–76. Since 1977 he has been full professor and Head of the Laboratory of Inorganic and Analytical Chemistry at the Department of Chemistry, Helsinki University of Technology, located in Espoo near Helsinki.

His research has been mainly concerned with structural and thermal properties of transition metal compounds formed by sulfur and selenium oxoacids. Special attention has been paid to rare earth sulfites, sulfates, selenites and selenates. Other areas where he has applied thermal methods of analysis are elemental sulfur and its binary compounds, and some industrial applications, *e.g.* phosphors, fertilizers, and metallurgic slag. He is author or co-author of over 100 technical and scientific papers.

Dr. Niinistö has been actively involved in the work of professional organizations at both local and international levels. He has served as the President of the Finnish Chemical Society, and currently represents the Scandinavian Chemical Societies on the Executive Committee of FECS. In 1978 he was the Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the EUCHEM Conference on the Chemistry of the Rare Earths, and at present holds a similar position for the EUROANALYSIS IV Conference to be held in Espoo in 1981.