

## Preface

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In the Meeting hold in Trieste on May 25–27, 2010, the Italian scientific tradition, specifically that in the field of calorimetry and thermal analysis, has been blended with aromas of applied thermodynamics. The meeting was characterized by a double-face organization. On one side, there was the traditional collection of papers and posters with an opening with the “SETARAM-AICAT” lecture given by C. Schick on “*Polymer crystallization studied by fast scanning ( $10^6$  K/s) and AC-Calorimetry*” and the “Lucci” lecture given by M. Pagano on “*Thermodynamics of quadruplex-Drug interactions for a rational design of novel binding agents*”. On the other side, the last day was almost entirely dedicated to a workshop organized in honor of K. H. Kehiahian, therefore, dealing with thermodynamics of liquid mixtures and predictive models. Some contributions of this session are appearing on a separate Special Issue of Journal of Chemical & Engineering Data.

Thus, in this volume a selection of the contributions presented in the first part of the Meeting is collected. These papers are listed in the order of the themes presented at the meeting and provide update information in several field ranging from polymers to metals, from solution thermodynamics to biomolecular interactions, including nanomaterials and cultural heritage. Above all, the unifying culture of calorimetry and thermal analysis was the common language to communicate and, sometimes, to dispute the scientific results.

After the scientific record of the Meeting, the editors feel necessary also to spend some words about the atmosphere outside the lecture hall. Time is passed since the late ‘70 when a few volunteers were contacted around Italy and convened to the foundation of an Italian Association of Calorimetry and Thermal Analysis (AICAT). After so many years, the same spirit and the same activity has put forward the organization of the 32nd Meeting in Trieste, in the newly set Conference Hall at the University of Trieste, with many novel young participants and highly novelties in research. In contrast with the pleasant sunny days of the end of May 2010, many participants traced back in the memories that organized in December 1983, also in Trieste, when snow and bora wind did a beautiful but dramatic change of the last evening scenario. Fortunately, that past evening the dinner was superb just as this time at the historical restaurant “Suban”, where the conveners have been driven through local wines and cuisine with some mittl-european flavors.

At the end of this short overview of the scientific and social event, concluded with a dedicated visit to Miramare Castle, we wish to thank all the colleagues for their active participation to the XXXII National Congress on Calorimetry, Thermal Analysis and Applied Thermodynamics, and for their scientific contributions to this Special Chapter.

Attilio Cesàro (Guest Editor)  
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