

Editorial

The European Ceramic Society held its first conference at Maastricht in the Netherlands in June of this year. Attended by some 1000 participants, the meeting offered a wide variety of papers, posters, exhibits, and technical excursions. Those who attended will have gained an impression of a thriving and healthy community.

Two events at the meeting are of direct relevance to this Journal. The first is that the role of President of the Society passed from Professor Rudi Metselaar to Professor Hans Hausner, who will guide the Society through the next two years of its life. We therefore have the pleasure of welcoming Professor Hausner onto the Editorial Board of the Journal, Professor Metselaar as immediate past-President of the Society will continue his association with the publication. May we wish Professor Hausner and colleagues of the German Ceramic Society every success in their stewardship of the European Ceramic Society. May we also thank colleagues in the Netherlands for their work in guiding the Society through the days of its inception.

The conference also saw the occasion of the first Stuijts Memorial Lecture which appears in this issue of the Journal. Professor Stuijts was a leading figure in ceramics research for many years, notably through his research contributions to the development of magneto- and electroceramic materials, through his teaching contributions as Professor extraordinary at the Faculty of Chemical Technology of the Eindhoven University of Technology and through his active and creative participation in the international ceramics world. His positive and sympathetic guidance in respect to promising research directions in the subject has been appreciated by generations of colleagues, there is no doubt about the enthusiasm with which he would have greeted the foundation of a European ceramics grouping and it is particularly appropriate that the Society should have seen the way to commemorating his name in the form of the Memorial Lecture.

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