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Preface

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Preface

In September 1976 the First U.S.-Romania Seminar on Polymer Science was held in Jassy, Romania, on the subject "Unsolved Problems of Co- and Graft Polymerization (see Journal of Polymer Science, Polymer Symposia, 64 (1978)). For that Seminar, Professor Otto Vogl, then of the University of Massachusetts, was the U.S. cochairman and Professor Cristofor I. Simionescu of the Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry was the Romanian cochairman. Since the meeting provided a highly successful format for the interaction of the polymer scientists of the two countries, it was decided to hold a Second Romania-U.S. Seminar on Polymer Science, with the title of "New and Modified Polymers." This meeting was sponsored by the Division of International Programs of the National Science Foundation and by the Romanian National Council for Science and Technology. The Seminar was held in Bucharest, Romania, on September 10-15, 1983, immediately following the 29th IUPAC Macromolecular Symposium. We were very pleased to have at the opening ceremony Mr M. Florescu, Minister, Secretary of State, in the National Council for Science and Technology of Romania; Mr N. Barbulescu, Deputy Minister of Chemical Industry of Romania; Madame Maria Ionescu, General Director of the Central Institute of Chemistry of Romania, and Mr David B. Funderburk, U.S. Ambassador to Romania.

The organization of such a seminar is usually complex and requires the cooperation of many organizations and offices. We were fortunate to have been helped by the initiatives of a number of people and, particularly, we wish to thank Ms Deborah L. Wince of the Division of International Programs of the National Science Foundation; Professor Otto Vogl of the Polytechnic Institute of New York; Professor I. Ursu, First Vice President of the National Council for Science and Technology of Romania; and Professor Mircea Malitza, Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Romania to the United States. We particularly wish to ex-

press our appreciation to Academician Dr Elena Ceausescu, First Deputy Prime Minister of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania, President of the National Council for Science and Technology, for her effort to make this joint meeting a success.

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