

Preface

When the Journal of Organometallic Chemistry was started, in 1963, the first public forum for this interdisciplinary field of chemical sciences became available to a growing number of organometallic chemists. Ten years later, in 1973, a Nobel prize was awarded to Ernst Otto Fischer (Munich, Germany) and Geoffrey Wilkinson (London, UK) for their pioneering achievements in the field. A further twenty years later Ernst Otto Fischer celebrated his 75th birthday, and we took that opportunity to establish a new series of organometallic conferences, called *Journal of Organometallic Chemistry Conferences*. The first of these took place at the Technische Universität München on November 4 and 5, 1993. This institution has become particularly well known through the work of the Nobel prize winners Hans Fischer (1930, porphyrin chemistry) and (not personally related to him) Ernst Otto Fischer (1973), whose predecessors in the Inorganic Chemistry Chair, namely Wilhelm Manchot and Walter Hieber, had prepared the environment in which organometallic chemistry could flourish.

The First Journal of Organometallic Chemistry Conference attracted approx. 450 participants to the capital of Bavaria. A truly eminent scientific programme, consisting of a series of plenary lectures and 75 presented posters, provided convincing proof of both the rapid growth of organometallic chemistry and its extension into more and new applied areas such as materials science. It was once again clear that catalysis remains the most active area in research and its application.

The present volume mirrors the content of the conference in terms of the broad scope of topics. The poster contributions included are invited papers that were selected during the display. We specifically gave the opportunity to our younger and youngest peers to present their results in this forum. As far as the plenary lectures are concerned, only those authors who had not recently published their results elsewhere were encouraged to contribute to the present issue.

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