

## *Preface*

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The 10th International Congress on Thermal Analysis held at the University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield, UK, from 24–28 August 1992, was attended by nearly 300 scientists from 33 countries. As well as hosting the 10th Congress, the University had extra cause for celebration in 1992, as this year saw its fortieth anniversary as an institution and also its designation as one of the United Kingdom's newest universities.

The scientific content of the 10th Congress can be assessed from the 168 papers contained in these Proceedings, which represent a very high proportion of those presented orally or in poster form. But an ICTA Congress represents more than formal presentation of research: it affords the opportunity to interact with fellow thermal analysts from many different disciplines and discuss common problems. In the early planning stages, the organizing committee, composed of members the UK Thermal Methods Group and staff of the University, set out to design a programme that would give maximum opportunity for exchange of information; poster presentations and workshops therefore featured prominently. In this respect, the 10th Congress was successful; very few people attended just to listen, and discussion at the poster sessions and workshops was lively. As usual, the opportunity was taken to honour ICTA members for particular achievements during the Congress. The ICTA TA Instruments (formerly DuPont) Award was made to Dr J. Šestak and the ICTA Young Scientist Award to Dr. J. Malek. Dr. C. B. Murphy was appointed the second Honorary ICTA Member, although unfortunately he was unable to attend in person. Inscribed scrolls were presented to the editors of *Thermochimica Acta*, *Journal of Thermal Analysis*, *Netsu Sokutei* and *ICTA News* in recognition of their efforts in furthering thermal analysis over the past 20 years. In the concluding business session, the decision was taken to change the name of our organization to the International Confederation for Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry (ICTAC), thereby formally including an important component of thermal analysis.

Publication of these Proceedings in typeset form rather than as camera-ready copy as originally intended has meant that realistic refereeing and editing has been possible. This in itself has caused some delay in

the appearance of the Proceedings. However, my own inability at times to provide edited papers quickly enough to meet the requirements of the J. Thermal Anal. editorial office has also contributed to the delay, and for this I apologize. I would like to thank all my referees who gave freely of their time to enhance the scientific value of these Proceedings, and the Editor of J. Thermal Anal., Dr. Judit Simon, and her colleagues on the journal for dealing so efficiently with this large number of papers.

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### ***Acknowledgement***

#### Referees for 10th ICTA Proceedings

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