

## *Preface*

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The 7th Symposium on Solution Chemistry, Thermodynamics, Thermochemistry and Thermal Analysis (STTT) of the Chinese Chemical Society (CCS), sponsored by the STTT Commission of the CCS and undertaken jointly by the Xian Modern Chemistry Research Institute and the Qinghai Salt Lake Institute, was successfully convened in Xian, China, on 1–4 June 1994. The conference organizers were Liu Ruilin, Yan Haike, Gao Shiyang, Tan Fu and Hu Rongzu for the STTT Commission of the CCS. This is a national conference, which is held every two years.

About 120 oral presentations were made at the conference, which was attended by over 200 participants. A total of 242 scientific contributions were presented. This special issue of the *Journal of Thermal Analysis* contains 42 papers, which covered a wide range of application of STTT.

Sponsorship, financial support and other forms of assistance were provided to the conference by the Thermal Analysis Co., Comef Co., Perkin-Elmer Co., the Xian Modern Chemistry Research Institute, and the Qinghai Salt Lake Institute.

The main purpose of the conference was to focus on fundamental and applied research carried out with the use of thermal analysis and calorimetry, and to present a deeper insight into several interdisciplinary subjects. The most important aim was to bring together specialists in calorimetry from all fields of application.

The editors of this special issue thank the authors of the papers and the referees for their collaboration.

Finally, we would like to note that plans are already being made for the 8th Symposium on STTT of the CCS, which will be held in the East China University of Science and Technology, Shanghai, China, in 1996. The Chairmen for that meeting are Professor Yan Haike, Chairman of the Commission on STTT of the CCS, and Professor Hu Ying of the East China University of Science and Technology, Academician of Academia Sinica. We wish them great success in the organization of that meeting.