

Preface

The Conference on Calorimetry and Thermal Analysis have been organised in Poland for over 20 years. The first one, organised by the Institute of Physical Chemistry at the Polish Academy of Sciences (IPCh PAS) was held at Zakopane in 1973. It was attended by about 80 participants. The conference was focused on theoretical principles of calorimetry and thermal analysis, calorimeter constructions and practical application of calorimetric methods. Subsequent conferences were held at 4 years' intervals, attracting more and more participants. All the conferences took place in Zakopane, a widely known tourist centre at the foothills of the Tatra mountains, 110 km south from Cracow.

The recent 6th Conference on Calorimetry and Thermal Analysis was held on 18-22 September, 1994 in Zakopane. The conference was organised under the auspices of the Polish Society of Calorimetry and Thermal Analysis (PTKAT) – W. Swietoslawski, by the Department of Physical Chemistry of the University of Lodz with the co-operation of the Institute of Physical Chemistry at the Polish Academy of Science (IPCh PAS). The Conference Chairman was Dr. H. Piekarski, professor of the Lodz University. The Head of the Scientific Committee was Prof. Dr. W. Zielenkiewicz (IPCh PAS).

185 researchers participated in the conference; 142 from Poland and 43 from 18 other countries. The scientific programme of the conference included plenary sessions and oral and poster presentations. Thirteen plenary lectures were given by invited lecturers: Prof. Dr. M. Blandamer (University of Leicester), Prof. Dr. J-P. E. Grolier (Université Blaise Pascal, Aubiere, France), Prof. Dr. R. Klekowski, (Institute of Ecology, PAS, Poland), Dr. E. Marti (Ciba-Geigy A. G.-Basel, Switzerland), Prof. Dr. S. Randzio, (IPCh PAS, Poland), Prof. Dr. G. Rialdi (CNR, Italy), Prof. Dr. M. Ribeiro da Silva, (University of Porto, Portugal), Prof. Dr. G. Somsen (Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, The Netherlands), Prof. Dr. H. Suga (Kinki University, Japan), Prof. Dr. S. Taniewska-Osinska, (University of Lodz, Poland), Prof. Dr. I. Wadsö (University of Lund, Sweden), Prof. Dr. L. Wojtczak, (University of Lodz, Poland), Prof. Dr. W. Zielenkiewicz (IPCh PAS, Poland). In addition to these, 20 sectional lectures, 27 oral communications and 121 posters were presented in the following sections: (1). Thermodynamics and thermochemistry of interactions in solutions. (2). Biological systems and natural environment. (3). Calorimetry and thermal analysis of inorganic substances and materials. (4). Calorimetry and thermal analysis of carbon compounds and polymers. (5). Apparatus and measuring techniques;

calorimetric processes modelling. The conference was accompanied by the exhibition of scientific instruments.

During the opening ceremony of the conference honorary membership of the Polish Society of Calorimetry and Thermal Analysis was granted to Prof. Dr. G. Somsen. Moreover, for the first time the W. Swietoslowski medal was awarded by the PTKAT for significant contributions in the field of calorimetric studies. Prof. Dr. W. Zielenkiewicz -- the Honorary Chairman of the Society, Prof. Dr. J.-P. Grolier and the aforementioned Prof. Dr. G. Somsen -- honorary members of the PTKAT were the first recipients.

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