

Preface

The second Symposium on Pharmacy and Thermal Analysis (PhandTA 2) was held at the University of Geneva in the building of the Faculté des Sciences II, quai E. Ansermet from September 17 to 19, 1995.

The general idea of a new Symposium with the overlapping subjects Pharmacy and Applied Physical Chemistry and with the specialization to Thermal Analysis, Calorimetry and Chemical Thermodynamics, as well as to Biocalorimetry and Biophysics had been created during a eurostar committee meeting at the ICTAC in Hatfield in August 1992. At this meeting Mrs. Dr. D. Giron, Dr. W.-D. Emmerich, Dipl.-Ing. W. Kunze, Prof. E. Wilhelm and myself were present. As a consequence of this meeting, the PhandTA 1 has been organized within a few months. The conference took part at the Albert-Ludwigs University in Freiburg i. Br., Germany, in March, 1993.

The scientific goals, the structure of the conference, as well as the scientific participation anticipated was not altered for the consecutive symposia. Such changes were not necessary, because the PhandTA 1 achieved significant success, so the concept was the right one and consequently the PhandTA 2 was organized along the same route.

The scientific program and the discussions in the different sections and in the workshops of the PhandTA 1 made it clear, that between the Pharmacy and the Physical Chemistry an information and a knowledge gap is existing. This fact does hardly reflect the effort of research and development capacity allocated within the pharmaceutical industry as well as within the pharmaceutical institutes of universities and technical high schools. Interdisciplinary conferences such as the PhandTA provide a meaningful contribution to overcome this knowledge gap.

The scientific program of the PhandTA 2 was opened with a Joint Meeting of STK and eurostar consecutive to the last session of the Geneva Meeting, which was the annual meeting of the Swiss Society for Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry.

I express here my sincere gratitude to Prof. Dr. Eric Doelker and to Prof. Dr. Paul Tissot for their support of the conference and also for their warm welcome to the participants.

Two Plenary Lectures were selected for this Joint Meeting, namely Prof. H. E. Junginger, Center for Drug Research, Leiden University and Prof. H. R. Oswald, Institute for Inorganic Chemistry, University of Zürich.

The presentations by Prof. Junginger "DTA Measurements of Human Stratum Corneum Pretreated with Penetration Enhancers-Implications for Drug Transport Across Skin" and by Prof. Oswald "Structural Studies on Polymorphism in Drugs" demonstrated impressively a segment of their excellent research work. These highlights

were followed by a vivid discussion and with the beginning of the joint reception already the whole frame of the conference had been opened.

The scientific program of the PhandTA 2 was extremely concentrated and dense with a total of 61 presentations and two workshops, including 8 plenary lectures, 10 key and short communications and two poster sessions with 36 poster presentations together. The conference gave the possibility to gain valuable information from the presented subjects and with over 100 participants many of the expectations could be accomplished.

I also want to express my thanks to the members of the Organizing and the Honorary Committee.

The organizers gratefully acknowledge the support offered by the main sponsors, namely Ciba-Geigy Ltd., Basel, and the Kontaktgruppe für Forschungsfragen (KGF), Basel.

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Health Scientific, Milton Keynes, UK
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TA Instruments GmbH, Alzenau, D
WITEC AG (Thermometrics AB), Littau, CH.

Only about 20% of the presentations could be integrated here in this special issue. Of course, some of the highlights are missing. However, a good profile of all the scientific presentations is collected here.

Scientists, who are interested in the workbook of the PhandTA 2 can order one under the given address.

Many thanks are going to the authors for providing their manuscripts.

The PhandTA 3 will be held at the Centro Stefano Franscini, Monte Verità, Ascona, Switzerland from October 12 to 15, 1997. All scientists interested in this conference, should ask for information at the given address. The 2nd Circular will be distributed in March, 1997.

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