

Preface

The 11th ICTAC will be remembered as a scientific, social, and financial success. Four years of planning came to fruition on Monday, August 12, 1996 when the conference opened in Philadelphia, America's most historic city, site of Independence Hall and Home of the Liberty Bell. Over 600 people converged from around the world for a week of intense scientific exchange, fellowship, and goodwill. The conference turned out to be one of the largest thermal analysis meetings ever held. This is due to several factors: the ICTA incorporated the field calorimetry, recently; the host North American Thermal Analysis Society (NATAS) has a large membership, the excellent program assembled by the committee, and possibly the rapid communication by e-mail and internet. Our record shows that over 5250 visitors accessed our webpage prior to the meeting!

After several months of diligent reviewing and revising of manuscripts by referees and authors following the conclusion of the 11th ICTAC conference, the Proceedings volumes are published in the first part of 1997 as planned. We are indebted to the hard work of our referees. Our whole-hearted appreciation to them are expressed in the separate acknowledgement page of this issue. Of the 450 listed presentations, over 200 were oral and close to 200 were posters. About 210 of the presentations are being published in the Conference Proceedings. The accomplishment of these volumes are attributed to the excellent communication during the course of preparation. Last but not least, let us express our thanks to Prof. Simon, Dr. Androsits and Prof. Liptay of Technical University, Budapest for bringing the task to reality in record time.

Individual papers were judged by two, sometimes three, scientists. In addition, each paper was read by at least one of the editors. In the cases of disagreement, the editors made the final decisions. We regret that not all papers submitted could be published.

We are confident that the success of 11th ICTAC will serve as an excellent starting point for the achievements of the 12th ICTAC to be held in Copenhagen in August 2000. We wish the organizers well as they usher in the next century of thermal analysis and calorimetry.

Respectfully submitted,

Mimi Y. Keating, *Guest Editor*
Andrew R. McGhie, *Conference Chairman*
Patrick K. Gallagher, *Program Chairman*
Roger L. Blaine, *Conference Vice-Chairman*
Tammy Chalmers, *Program Vice-Chairman*
Harry G. McAule, *Publicity Chairman*
John B. Enns, *Treasurer*.



Mimi Y. Keating



Andrew R. McGhie



Patrick K. Gallagher

*Thank
You!*



Tammy Chalmers



Harry G. McAdie



Roger L. Blaine



John B. Enns