

Preface

The conference Jornadas Mediterráneas de Calorimetría y Análisis Térmico (J. Med. CAT'97) was held at the University of the Balearic Islands (Palma de Mallorca, Spain) from 24 to 28 June, 1997. It was the third edition of a cycle of conferences devoted to Calorimetry and Thermal Analysis organized in the Mediterranean area every two years. The first meeting (J. Med. CAT'93) was held in Corte (Corsica, France), and the second one (G. Med. CAT'95) in Cagliari (Sardinia, Italy). This third event was organized as a joint meeting of the Grupo Español de Calorimetría y Análisis Térmico (GECAT), the Associazione Italiana di Calorimetria e Analisi Termica (AICAT) and Gruppo Interdivisionale de Calorimetria e Analisi Termica (GICAT), and the Hellenic Society for Thermal Analysis (HSTA).

The conference was attended by almost 150 participants coming from a dozen of countries. There were 8 plenary and key lectures, and 119 scientific contributions which covered a broad spectrum of basic aspects and practical applications in different fields of Calorimetry and Thermal Analysis. The program was organized in 7 Sessions (with both oral and poster presentations) focused on Polymers; Thermodynamics/Thermochemistry; Measuring/Data Processing; Biological Products/Foods; Materials; Mixtures/Solutions; and Cultural Heritage. A special workshop on Thermodynamics of Liquid Mixtures was also held during the conference. The abstracts of the contributions were collected in the Conference Abstracts Book (*Revista de Ciència*, Vol. 20, 1997). At the conference site there was an exhibition of commercial instruments with stands from Mettler-Toledo, Perkin-Elmer, Setaram and Waters-TA.

The participants had been invited to submit a manuscript for its eventual publication in a special issue of *Journal of Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry* devoted to the conference J. Med. CAT'97. The received manuscripts were reviewed by a double team of referees; one was chosen by the Journal, and the other by the Guest Editors. The process has now finished with the publication of the present issue containing the selected papers. We hope that they will be of the interest of the readers.

We thank all the authors for providing the manuscripts and, for their careful reviewing in benefit of the scientific level of the contributions, we would like to acknowledge all the referees: those listed below, those who preferred to contribute anonymously. Finally, we wish to express our profound gratitude to the editorial staff, specially to Prof. Judith Simon, Editor-in-Chief, who has made possible the appearance of this issue with the highest standards of quality.

The Guest Editors

Fernando Fernández-Martín
Instituto del Frio (CSIC)
Madrid

Antoni Amengual
Universitat de les Illes Balears
Palma de Mallorca

List of Referees

Barral, L. (University of La Coruña, Spain)
Benéitez Moreno, P. (Autonomous University of Madrid, Spain)
Blanco, M. T. (Institute of Building Sciences 'Torroja'/CSIC, Madrid, Spain)
Casanova Roque, C. (University of Valladolid, Spain)
Criado, J. M. (University of Sevilla, Spain)
Day, M. (National Research Council of Canada, Canada)
Ellis, G. (Polymers Institute ICTP/CSIC, Madrid, Spain)
Escalona, E. (University of the Balearic Islands, Spain)
Gómez, M. A. (Polymers Institute ICTP/CSIC, Madrid, Spain)
González Prolongo, M. (Polytechnical University of Madrid, Spain)
Iglesias, M. (University of Vigo, Spain)
Jamnický, M. (Slovak University of Technology, Slovakia)
Jiménez, J. M. (REPSOL, Madrid, Spain)
Kakali, G. (National Technical University of Athens, Greece)
Lalia-Kantouri, M. (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece)
Linares, A. (University of Alicante, Spain)
Liptay, Gy. (Technical University of Budapest, Hungary)
Liska, M. (Slovak Academy of Sciences, Slovakia)
Malatesta, F. (University of Pisa, Italy)
Malecki, A. (University of Mining and Metallurgy, Cracow, Poland)
Mátek, J. (University of Pardubice, Czech Republic)
Marco Rocha, C. (Polymers Institute ICTP/CSIC, Madrid, Spain)
Marongiu, B. (University of Cagliari, Italy)
Núñez Regueira, L. (University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain)
Papánková, B. (Slovak Technical University, Slovakia)
Piekarski, H. (University of Łódź, Poland)
Pittia, P. (University of Udine, Italy)
Puertas, F. (Institute of Building Sciences 'Torroja'/CSIC, Madrid, Spain)
Rey, C. (University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain)
Ribeiro da Silva, M. D. C. (University of Porto, Portugal)
Rodríguez Renuncio, J. A. (Complutense University, Madrid, Spain)
Rodríguez Rubio, R. (Complutense University, Madrid, Spain)
Roux, M. V. (Physical Chemistry Institute 'Rocasolano'/CSIC, Madrid, Spain)
Saiter, J. M. (University of Rouen, France)
Salom Coll, C. (Polytechnical University of Madrid, Spain)
Segal, E. (University of Bucharest, Romania)
Seguí, C. (University of the Balearic Islands, Spain)
Šimon, P. (Slovak Technical University, Slovakia)
Sopková, A. (P. J. Šafarik's University, Slovakia)
Tachoire, H. (University of Provence, France)
Torra, V. (Polytechnical University of Catalonia, Barcelona, Spain)
Tsviliis, S. (National Technical University of Athens, Greece)
Yusupova, T. N. (Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia)

Full revised manuscripts of the Conference received April 15, 1998.