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## *Preface*

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The fifth CBRATEC (V Congresso Brasileiro de Análise Térmica e Calorimetria) conference was held in April 02–05, 2006 in Poços de Caldas, MG. One third of the 370 participants was graduates and Ph.D. students well representing the continuous interest in thermal analysis among Brazilian researchers.

The structure of conference was characteristic and refreshing, since every morning one of the leading Brazil thermoanalysts held an opened teaching course especially for the representatives of the young generation. After then plenary lecturers and keynote speakers (J. Rouquerol, Cs. Novák, D. Burtlett, M. Suchyta and A. Riga) occupied the podium. The afternoon sessions consisted of mainly short lectures and poster exhibitions; both provided excellent possibility for the Ph.D. students to introduce their scientific work.

The scope of conference covered practically all aspects of thermal analysis.

Since 1998, when the first CBRATEC conference was held, the participation of young scientists and the organization of teaching courses played essential role for them. As an effort to increase international experiences, the universities pay continuous attention to foreign language education (first of all English), so the communication between the invited international researchers, the representatives of the instrument companies and the domestic conference attendants became much more efficient in recent years.

During the conference the new Executive Committee was elected. Prof. Valter José Fernandes Junior was elected as President of ABRATEC supported by the members of the Executive (Jivaldo do Rosário Matos (Vice-President), Massao Ionashiro, Lázaro Moscardini D'Assunção, Clóvis Augusto Ribeiro, Elias Yuki Ionashiro, Carlos Isidoro Braga, Manoel Luiz Cunha Rodrigues, Rodrigo Maciel).

In recognition of his continuous cooperation for the development of thermoanalytical researches in Brazil and its scientific divulgation in Thermal Analysis, the 'Special Award' of ABRATEC (Brazilian Association for Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry) was presented to Prof. Csaba Novák.

For their outstanding achievements in developing the international relation of ABRATEC, Honourable Membership of the Thermoanalytical Sub-Branch of the Hungarian Chemical Society was presented to Prof. Jivaldo do Rosário Matos, Massao Ionashiro, Prof. Valter José Fernandes Junior and Prof. Éder Tadeu Gomes Cavalheiro at the opening ceremony.

At last but not least, according to the decision of ICTAC Council during the 13<sup>th</sup> ICTAC (2004, Chia Laguna, Italy) Brazil was elected as the host of ICTAC 14 in 2008. The Brazilian thermoanalytical community feels extremely honored to be entrusted with the organization of the 14<sup>th</sup> ICTAC Conference that will take place in São Pedro, SP, in September 14–19, 2008, where the scientists, researchers and students, who are acting in the field of thermal analysis and calorimetry are cordially invited. The link to the conference site is [www.ictac14.com.br](http://www.ictac14.com.br).

**Prof. Valter J. Fernandes Jr.**  
President of ABRATEC

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