

## Preface

Subhash C. Mojumdar

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I am very pleased to introduce this special issue of the *Journal of Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry* (JTAC) on the basis of the selected papers dedicated to the Annual Workshop and Exhibition of the Canadian Thermal Analysis Society (CTAS) on 12–13 May 2009, Ottawa, Canada. This special issue contains a very rich collection of papers covering a wide range of thermo-analytical techniques and various materials, submitted by authors from around the world. These papers provide an interesting overview of research and developments in the field of thermal analysis and calorimetry conducted in Canada and many other countries and testify that CTAS is increasingly attracting researchers from around the globe.

The success of the 19th CTAS Annual Workshop and Exhibition is the result of the dedicated volunteers who serve the Society. The CTAS executive committee and the session chairs have done a wonderful job in organizing such a high quality program and collecting excellent papers that are parts of this special chapter. My special thanks to Professor Judit Simon (Editor-in-Chief), Professor Csaba Novak (Editor) and staffs of the Editorial Office of JTAC for their kind helps in bringing out this special issue. CTAS is also very grateful to TA Instruments, Mettler-Toledo Inc., Netzsch Instruments Inc., PerkinElmer LAS Inc.,

Setaram Instrumentation and C-Therm Technologies for their participation in exhibition, training seminars, vendor and/or technical presentations detailing the developments in instrumentation and applications. They are an integral part to the CTAS annual workshop and exhibition. I am very hopeful that you will enjoy reading the papers of this special issue.

I and my fellow CTAS associates would also like to extend a warm and cordial invitation to our colleagues in Canada and all over the world to attend the CTAS annual workshops and exhibitions. I also want to take this opportunity to announce that the 2010 CTAS 20th annual workshop and exhibition will take place at the Stage West Hotel, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada.

I especially thank all the authors for their submission of such high standard papers as well as for their timely responses to the reviewer recommendations. Every paper has been reviewed at least by two independent reviewers. I am very grateful to the referees for their time and effort in the review process and as acknowledgements to their great works all of the reviewers have been listed on the next page. I also want to thank each and every of those authors who prompted the guest editor on various occasions for transforming this special issue into reality.

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S. C. Mojumdar (✉)  
Department of Engineering, University of New Brunswick,  
Saint John, NB E2L 4L5, Canada  
e-mail: scmojumdar@yahoo.com

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