

Preface

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MEDICTA is an event which takes place every second year and gathers scientists mainly, but not only, from the Mediterranean circle. The first such meeting was organized in Corte (Corsica) in 1993 by the French, Italian and Spanish Associations of Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry. Since then, it took place every second year. In 2009, it was the turn of AFCAT, the French Association, to host the meeting in Marseille and the two of us were asked, by our colleagues from the AFCAT Council, to organize it.

The meeting took place in a conference building located in a garden dominating the old port, where the attached picture was taken from. It was supported by the Université de Provence, the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), the Regional Representation of the European Community in Marseille, the Conseil Régional PACA, the Conseil Général des Bouches du Rhône, the Communauté Urbaine Marseille-Provence-Metropole and, of course, the City of Marseille whom we all wish to thank here again.

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namely, Prof. Jean Grenet for AFCAT (France), Prof. Bruno Marongiu and Prof. Adriana Saccone for AICAT and GICAT, respectively (Italy), Prof. Manuel Ribeiro da Silva for CATPOR (Portugal), Prof. Victoria Roux for GECAT (Spain), Prof. Maria Lalia-Kantouri for HSTA (Greece) and Prof. Nissim Garti for IGTAC (Israel). This international sponsorship explains that, among the 200 participants, 130 came from abroad, in majority, but not only, from the Mediterranean countries.

There were 200 works presented in the oral or poster sessions, from which 46 are presented in this special issue of the *Journal of Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry*, after being submitted to the standard procedure used by the Journal for reviewing, correcting or rejecting any paper submitted. This special issue therefore provides a good overview of the topics on which the MEDICTA community is working at present. We wish to thank the Journal Editors for their most professional and efficient work and we finally hope that the readers will find this issue useful and inspiring and will even start being in touch with the authors before being able to meet at a future conference of our community of thermal analysis and calorimetry.

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