

The International Symposia on Macromolecular Complexes, MMC's, has brought together leading scientists and engineers to discuss the latest advances in fields such as macromolecule-metal complexes, polynuclear complexes, capped metal nanoparticles, organic-inorganic hybrids, supramolecular complexes and self-assembled materials, and polyelectrolytes, among others. Not only syntheses and characterization of those materials but also various properties and functions like conductive, photophysical, catalytic, electronic, optical, magnetic and biological ones, as well as their applications, were included for discussion.

These bi-annual symposia have been IUPAC-sponsored for several years. They have been previously held in Beijing (1985), Tokyo (1987), New Jersey (1989), Siena (1991), Bremen (1993), Kuang-chou (1995), Leiden (1997), Tokyo (1999), New York (2001), Moscow (2003), Pisa (2005), Fukuoka (2007). The International Advisory Board approved the application, presented by Heiki Tenhu, to organize the MMC-14 in Helsinki, August 14 to 17, 2011.

The MMC-13 has been held at Termas de Chillán, Concepción, Chile, on November 15 to 17, 2009. It has been organized by Bernabé L. Rivas, Chair, and M. Angélica del Valle, Juan Costamagna, and Raul Quijada, co-chairs. It had 79 registered participants from several countries, presenting 73 contributions. There were 11 plenary and invited lectures together with regular oral contributions and poster sessions. Many graduate students, about 25 % of the total attendance, presented their own results.

16 participants of this symposium have been invited to contribute to a special issue of Macromolecular Symposia. We want to express our gratitude to the authors for their contributions and to the referees for their effort and valuable comments and suggestions to the manuscripts.

We would also like to thank Wiley-VCH for agreeing to publish this special issue of Macromolecular Symposia and particularly to Mrs. Sibylle Meyer, Managing Editor, for her efficiency, help, and efforts to achieve the final edition of this issue.

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**Participants of the MMC-13**