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Preface to the Special Issue of *Supramolecular Chemistry*

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Preface to the Special Issue of *Supramolecular Chemistry*

This special issue of *Supramolecular Chemistry* contains a collection of original research papers and reviews contributed by participants of Calix 2007: the 9th International Conference on Calixarene Chemistry (August 6–9, 2007, College Park, Maryland, USA). This special issue is dedicated to the lifetime achievements of Professor David N. Reinhoudt, who has recently retired from the University of Twente, Enschede - the Netherlands. On behalf of all the contributors, the editorial board and the organizing committee of Calix 2007, we thank Professor Reinhoudt for his tremendous work in the field of supramolecular chemistry and for his outstanding leadership. He will be an inspiration for future generations of scientists.

The main topic of this special issue is the chemistry of calixarenes and related macrocycles. The conference was held back to back with a NSF sponsored pre-conference workshop on cucurbiturils with many attendees contributing to both meetings. There are two papers on cucurbiturils (from L. Isaacs and K. Kim) in this special issue in addition to a report on self-assembled cavitands (M. Fujita), reflecting emerging trends in the areas of supramolecular chemistry.

Traditionally, a great deal of attention is paid to the synthesis of functionally-rich macrocycles and the complexation power of macromolecular receptors. The reviews by J.T. Davis and R. Quesada on anion receptors and sensors, as well as the research papers on synthesis (E. Dalcanale), recognition of anions (J.L. Sessler, T. Schrader, B.C. Gibb), cations (T. Haino, R. Warmuth, G.G. Talanova) and ion-pairs (P.A. Gale) highlight the current advances in this field of study. Supramolecular and covalent polymers based on calixarene building blocks are discussed in papers from V. Böhmer and J.V. Prata. Molecular capsules were a particular theme of the meeting and are represented here by papers from J.L. Atwood, C.A. Schalley, Y. Cohen and

R. Warmuth. The structural features and catalytic power of metallocalixarenes are reviewed by A. Vigalok.

A significant number of presentations given on Calix 2007 were devoted to the role of calixarenes in biochemical studies. This rapidly developing direction is represented by papers from A. Casnati, T. Schrader and A. Wei.

This collection accurately represents the modern advances in chemistry of calixarenes and related compounds and will serve as an invaluable source of information for the future undertakings in supramolecular chemistry. The organizing committee of the 9th International Conference on Calixarene Chemistry (www.chem.umd.edu/conferences/calix2007) and the editorial board of *Supramolecular Chemistry* are grateful to all contributors for their truly inspiring work.

Using this opportunity, the editorial board would like to announce that the next meeting, the 10th International Conference on Calixarene Chemistry will take place in July, 2009 at the University of Korea, Seoul (J.-S. Kim and K. Kim, organizers).

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This special issue is in honor of Professor David N. Reinhoudt.