

Preface

Preface to XXV ChiTEI issue

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The articles which constitute this special issue of *Theoretical Chemistry Accounts* represent a cross-section of the scientific contributions presented at the XXVth International Congress of Theoretical Chemists of Latin Expression, held in Naples (Italy) from September 13–18, 1999.

Although the Paris meeting, held in 1970, is usually considered as the first congress with this name, there were actually two previous meetings. The first was held in 1969 in Modena (Italy), organized mainly by Prof. G. Berthier and Dr. B. Cadioli, and the second was celebrated on exactly the same dates in Madrid (Spain), organized mainly by Prof. Y.G. Smeyers. The congress in Paris was the natural consequence of these two previous meetings.

Since 1970, annual meetings have been regularly organized in Argentina, Belgium, Chile, France, Italy, Mexico, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland and Venezuela. There is no official permanent organizing committee. Any scientists' group that wishes to organize the next meeting may be chosen as organizer by those of the previous congresses. The only stipulation is that the official languages are the Romance languages; however, the proceedings are published in English in order to allow a wider dissemination of the scientific contributions.

In 1999, the XXVth congress was held in Naples, Italy. About 150 scientists from Algeria, Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, France, Germany, Italy,

Mexico, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, South Africa, Switzerland, Uruguay, the USA and Venezuela participated.

During the congress, 14 plenary lectures were given, the majority by distinguished members of the scientific community from Latin-speaking countries. Furthermore, 28 oral communications and 100 posters were presented in the various fields of theoretical chemistry. The next meeting will be organized in Brasil by Professor Nascimento, in September 2000.

This special issue consists of 29 selected and refereed contributions presented in different formats at the Naples congress. The guest editors wish to express their warm thanks to all participants who contributed to the success of this meeting through their valuable contributions. We also wish to acknowledge the help in both the organization of the congress and in the editing of this special issue of *Theoretical Chemistry Accounts* by all the members of the Laboratory for the Structure and Dynamics of Molecules at the University Federico II of Naples, namely Dr. A. di Matteo, M. Cossi, R. Improta, N. Rega and V. Vetere. The financial support of Compag, CASPUR, Banco di Napoli, INSTM, CNR, MURST and the University Federico II is also gratefully acknowledged.

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