

Foreword

Special Issue on Biomolecular Electronics— Interfacing Physics and Chemistry with Biology

Biomolecular electronics is rapidly evolving as a result of a cross-fertilization of ideas from among the physical, chemical, and life sciences. In a broader sense, biomolecular electronics deals with the coupling of biologic function to electronics and has been described as the implementation of biomolecular devices, biomaterials, circuits, and architecture as encountered in life sciences. Biomolecular electronics covers a wide range of areas such as biosensors, conducting polymers, biomaterials, microactuators, electronic nose, molecular recognition, analytical techniques, self-repair, biocomputers, and biophotonics. The expected economic output of biomolecular electronics is likely to exceed within the next two decades any other field such as information technology and transport. Keeping this in view, the Biomolecular Electronics and Conducting Polymer Research Group of the National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi, India, organized the National Symposium on Biomolecular Electronics—Interfacing Physics and Chemistry with Biology (BEIPCB), on September 16–17, 1999.

BEIPCB focused on the recent developments in the field of biomolecular electronics. The main topics covered were biochips, biosensors, biomaterials, conducting polymers, molecular recognition, and immobilization and characterization of biomolecules. A panel discussion on biomolecular electronics, biosensors, and conducting polymers was also held.

Many papers were received from various countries. Thirty-five were accepted for presentation and 21 were put up at the poster session. Twenty-seven papers have been selected for inclusion in the special issue of *Applied Biochemistry and Biotechnology*. Each of these papers contains information and new results. We are confident that this special issue will prove fruitful to all the researchers interested in the field of biomolecular electronics.

We wish to thank all the authors for their excellent papers and express sincere gratitude to the reviewers for their fine job.

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