

Preface: 5th German Ferrofluid Workshop, held 25–27 June 2003, at the Max-Planck-Institut für Kohlenforschung, Mülheim a.d. Ruhr, Germany

German Ferrofluid Workshops are held regularly in order to provide a rapid exchange of information between the members of the German Ferrofluid Community, which is growing every year.

The fifth conference, held at the Max-Planck-Institut für Kohlenforschung, Mülheim, Germany, was attended by nearly 150 scientists, and their contributions covered all aspects of the field, from fundamentals to applications.

The editors of *Applied Organometallic Chemistry* have invited the authors to publish their contributions in this special issue. From the large amount of outstanding papers presented at the conference, a selection of significant papers was made in order to highlight the recent progress which has been achieved in the various branches of ferrofluid research.

While this special issue is printed, we look forward to the forthcoming 6th German Ferrofluid Workshop to be held in 2005 in Saarbrücken, Germany, with Rolf Hempelmann as our chairman.

Helmut Bönemann
AOC Section Editor