

## Preface

This special issue of Catalysis Today is drawn from many of the contributions which were made at the “*Catalyst Life Cycle—Preparation, Activation, Deactivation and Regeneration*” meeting which was held at the University of Bath, UK in September 2002. This was the latest in the biennial series of meetings organised jointly by the Surface Reactivity and Catalysis (SURCAT), Process Technology and Applied Catalysis subject groups of the Royal Society of Chemistry, with the Applied Catalysis subject group of the Institution of Chemical Engineers.

The following manuscripts are a reflection of the broad scope of the meeting. Quite often in published work, too little attention is given to the issues of lifetime, deactivation and regeneration for heterogeneous catalysts, which is surprising in view of their vital importance in the ultimate application of new catalysts/processes. The meeting was intended to highlight these issues and also inter-relate them to catalyst preparation and activation.

The Guest Editors would like to take this opportunity to express their appreciation to the financial sponsors of the meeting, BP Chemicals and Johnson

Matthey plc (and in particular Dr. Barry Nay and Dr. Peter Johnston respectively for their help in acquiring the sponsorship). They would also like to record their gratitude to the contributors, referees, Editor (Professor Julian Ross) and production staff of Catalysis Today for their assistance in the publication of this special issue.

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