



## Preface

The Ninth Korea–Japan Symposium on Catalysis was held on 14–17 May at Pohang University of Science and Technology (POSTECH), Pohang, Korea. The symposium is held every 2 years alternating the places between Korea and Japan, with the aim of sharing the latest research results and ideas and boosting the cooperative relations among catalytic scientists and engineers of the two countries. In the past, there were a large number of bilateral and multilateral meetings on catalysis held among the catalysis communities in the Asia-Pacific region including Korea and Japan. Essentially, all those meetings have disappeared or combined into international meetings such as APCAT and TOCAT. Somehow, only Korea–Japan Symposium on Catalysis has not only survived for the past 18 years but also flourished with time. This reflects the very special relationship of the two countries.

The symposium this year was held under the auspices of Korean Institute of Chemical Engineers and has attracted about 240 participants from both the countries, which are substantially larger than previous symposiums. The quality of the papers and the presentations has also vastly improved. In this symposium, we had 1-day student session with 10 oral presentations and 2-day main session where 2 plenary lectures, 5 invited lectures from industries, 27 regular talks, and 151 poster presentations were given. Thus the symposium was a good opportunity not only to obtain scientific information on the catalytic research but also to strengthen the friendship among participants from two countries. The organizing committee greatly appreciates enthusiastic participation and supports received from all the participants. We wish to thank industrial and institutional sponsors for their generous supports as well.

The organization committee wanted to publish a special symposium issue in this journal to commemorate this fruitful academic meeting but realized that the scope of this symposium is too broad to be included in a single thematic issue in *Catalysis Today*. Therefore, we set the title for this special issue as *Catalysis for Environment Friendly Technologies* and selected only a limited number of papers that match this special issue title. The topics of this issue are focused to the critical role of catalysis both in pollution prevention technologies such as green chemical synthesis/manufacturing, recycling, and clean energy production and in end-of-the-pipe pollution treatment technologies such as desulfurization, NO<sub>x</sub> removal, and photocatalytic oxidation. A cursory reading of the listed titles only would be enough to show you the diverse spectrum of roles played by catalysis in protecting our environment.

Special thanks go to Prof. Makoto Misono, the Associate Editor of this journal, for his valuable advice and cooperation and Elsevier for enabling us to publish this symposium issue. Finally, we would like to thank all the authors for contributing original papers to this issue. We hope that this valuable tradition of academic get-together will continue and that catalytic scientists and engineers of the two neighbor countries are not only heading for more environmentally friendly goals in their research but also getting friendlier among them.

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