

Preface

Oxide-based materials in catalysis

This volume is a collection of 14 papers selected from contributions presented at the 36th Polish Conference on Catalysis held on 17–19 March 2004 in Kraków, Poland. The event belongs to a series of catalytic conferences organised annually by the Institute of Catalysis and Surface Chemistry (Kraków) since 1969. The purpose of the meetings is to provide a broad forum for scientists from academy, universities, polytechnics and industry, to present their latest research results and discuss issues related to novel and interesting findings made in catalysis and related fields. Since few years, in addition to national speakers, foreign scientists are invited to deliver plenary lectures at the conference.

The 36th conference hosted about 200 scientists, nearly twice as much as attended the previous meeting. Many young scientists and Ph.D. students took the opportunity to present their results at the symposium. The conference was co-sponsored by the European Union under the project no. NMP3-CT-2004-510318 (POL-CAT), and the State Committee for Scientific Research, Warsaw, which is gratefully acknowledged. It is our feeling that the conference will continue to gather the scientists working in the field of catalysis and the annual meetings will flourish in the years to come.

The papers included in this volume are some selections of the 25 lectures, including a plenary lecture delivered by Professor L. Guczi, and the two poster sessions with 186

contributions. The articles span a wide range of topics, beginning with a review on bimetallic particles formed on the highly dispersed oxidic and zeolitic supports, going through catalysts supported on oxides and carbon fibres and tested in different reactions, and ending with various aspects of chemistry and catalysis of microporous and mesoporous molecular sieves. The last three papers of the volume deal with quantum chemical calculations on WO_3 films, $\text{Mo-Al}_2\text{O}_3$, V_2O_5 and $\text{MoO}_3\text{-V}_2\text{O}_5$ systems.

The efforts made by the authors during this conference are now reproduced in this special issue of *Catalysis Today*. The volume would not have been materialized without the significant help of reviewers. The editor wishes to thank the reviewers for their invaluable comments and suggestions, and the authors for the preparation of the final versions of the papers. I am grateful to Dr. A. Kubacka and Dr. E. Wloch of ICSC for their assistance in the preparation of this volume.

The guest editor would like to acknowledge Professor Julian Ross for his help and kind suggestions, and is also grateful to a team from Elsevier for the fruitful co-operation.

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