

Preface

This volume contains a selection of the papers presented at “Gold 2006” held at the University of Limerick, Ireland, from 3 to 6 September 2006. This meeting, co-organised by the World Gold Council and the University of Limerick, followed on from a series of meetings, the first in Hanau in 1996, the second in Cape Town in 2001 and the third in Vancouver in 2003. The first of these paid little attention to catalysis but the second was devoted to “Catalytic Gold” while the Vancouver meeting and again that in Limerick embraced all aspects of gold chemistry. The Limerick meeting had four parallel sessions, two of them devoted to catalysis by gold, and there were in total well over 200 participants from all over the world.

This issue of *Catalysis Today* contains papers based on the majority of the oral presentations in the two sessions devoted to gold catalysis. The majority of the poster presentations have been, or are being, published in *Gold Bulletin*; however, several of the authors of posters were invited, on the advice of the Editors of *Gold Bulletin*, also to provide manuscripts for *Catalysis Today*. The result is an assembly of the results of some of the most up-to-date research on catalysis by gold currently available.

The meeting would not have been possible without the hard work of a number of people, particularly Drs. Chris Corti and Richard Holliday of the Gold Council, Dr. David Thompson, now a consultant, who encouraged the submission of many important contributions, and Profs. Graham Hutchings and Masataki Haruta, two of the pioneers of gold catalysis, who laboured behind the scenes to select, with the help of a large and distinguished committee, the papers for presentation at the meeting.

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