



Preface: Recent Advances in Catalysis for Ultra Clean Fuels

With heightened concerns for the clean air and clean environment, the requirements for the cleaner transportation fuels have become increasingly stricter worldwide. Consequently, catalysis plays an increasingly more important role for ultra clean fuels in the field of clean energy research in the world. In order to facilitate the advances in catalysis research on clean energy, the International Symposium on Catalysis for Ultra-Clean Fuels was held in Dalian, China during July 21–24, 2008 following the International Congress on Catalysis held in Seoul, Korea. About 210 participants from more than 10 countries attended the symposium. The participants also included graduate students from several countries, and many of those from Dalian University of Technology. The technical program included 15 invited lectures, 51 oral presentations, and 33 posters. This special issue of Catalysis Today was developed based on the submitted manuscripts following the international symposium.

All of the manuscripts were reviewed by two or more peer reviewers, some with second to fourth revision, and the process involved more than one hundred referees, to whom the organizing committee and the guest editors would like to express their gratitude for their time and efforts. We received 49 manuscripts submitted for the special issue. After the standard reviewing procedure, 36 manuscripts were accepted for publication. They cover a broad range of studies on catalysis and catalytic processes for sulfur and nitrogen removal and cleanup, oxidative desulfurization, syngas production, hydrogen storage, syngas conversion, membrane catalysis, bio-fuels, and computational catalysis. Also incorporated are studies on catalytic synthesis of value-added chemicals from compounds in fuel streams. This broad variety of topics proves that catalysis for ultra clean fuels still attracts strong interest of researchers worldwide.

We are grateful to Dalian University of Technology, State Key Laboratory of Fine Chemicals, Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics, and Fushun Research Institute of Petroleum and Petrochemicals for sponsoring this symposium with financial support, to the American Chemical Society Divisions of Fuel Chemistry and Petroleum Chemistry as well as the Energy Institute of the Pennsylvania State University for co-sponsoring this international symposium. We thank the organizing committee members and all the members and students in the local organizing committee in Dalian for their time and efforts in setting up this symposium.

We would also like to thank all the authors and co-authors of the original manuscripts submitted for publication in this issue. We are indebted to all the reviewers for their co-operation and in-depth comments on the submitted manuscripts. We gratefully acknowledge the Editor, Prof. Julian Ross, and the Elsevier Science

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