

Preface

In 1992 Barry Lever offered Latin American coordination chemists an opportunity to exhibit their work in a special issue of Coordination Chemistry Reviews. Two years ago, we decided that it was about time for 'Coordination Chemistry in Latin America II'.

The response of various colleagues to the invitation to present a contribution in this new volume was prompt and enthusiastic. Coordination chemistry, by tradition, is quite a popular area of research in Latin America. The list of laboratories, and countries in which the work was developed is not comprehensive but will give an idea of the activities and development in the field and the contribution of Latin American scientists to the international scene.

An increase in the number of contributions, following these seven years, is clearly noticed comparing the contents of the two issues. Such an increase is by no means restricted to the numbers of papers but is also reflected in the breadth of the topics.

The synthesis and characterization of new species are now reported with more emphasis on their thermal and photochemical reactivities, correlation between their structure and properties, bioinorganic relevance, and application for energy conversion. The description of new mononuclear, and polynuclear complexes with a large variety of ligands, some of them newly synthesized, and of new supramolecular assemblies is an indicator of the degree of sophistication achieved by the Latin coordination chemists.

Most of these contributions did not come from the same institution or even from the same state of the federation and not necessarily from the foremost university of the country or state. Even for us, it is surprising that, despite all the economic and political difficulties faced by Latin American scientists, difficulties which grow every day, science and education are thriving. I sincerely hope that in the future this growth will continue and we can look forward to CCLAIII.

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