

Preface

The 50th National Conference on Coordination Chemistry (NCCC) of Japan, 16–18 September 2000, Biwako-Kusatsu Campus of Ritsumeikan University, Japan, and Commemorative Meeting of the 50th Anniversary of NCCC, ‘International Symposium on New Horizons of Coordination Chemistry towards the 21st Century’ 18–20 September 2000, Biwako-Kusatsu Campus of Ritsumeikan University, Japan

The 50th National Conference on Coordination Chemistry (NCCC) of Japan and the commemorative meeting of the 50th anniversary of this conference, ‘International Symposium on New Horizons of Coordination Chemistry towards the 21st Century’, were held in the Biwako-Kusatsu Campus of Ritsumeikan University, Japan, from September 16 to 20, 2000. The Chairman, Professor Hitoshi Ohtaki (Faculty of Science and Engineering, Ritsumeikan University), and the members of the organizing committee made a great effort to follow the high standards of the 49 previous and successful conferences held annually from the first symposium (Tokyo Institute of Technology, 1951), and also the high standards of the tenth (1967) and 30th (1994) International Conferences on Coordination Chemistry held in Japan. Coordination chemistry continues to be one of the most rapidly growing research areas in Japan. The NCCC held in the past have served as the birthplace of ideas and development contributing to the success of coordination chemistry, and have also provided valuable opportunities for the cross-disciplinary cooperation of scientists having different backgrounds and experience.

The program of the 50th NCCC consisted of a memorial lecture for Professor Kazuo Saito, a session in honor of Professor Hideo Yamadera’s work, two mini-symposia on specially selected themes, and 230 oral and 343 poster presentations under 12 themes of interest selected by the organizing committee. The international conference was held at the same time as the commemorative meeting of the 50th anniversary of

NCCC, where 27 of the world’s leading scientists were invited as guest speakers and 171 poster presentations were successfully given. The participants all very much enjoyed the high level of the presentations, and the stimulating discussions. The atmosphere imparted the enthusiasm and excitement of these symposia especially to the younger scientists.

This special issue of *Coordination Chemistry Reviews* compiles the mini-reviews by 24 selected contributors of these two symposia. I believe that this issue will be a valuable source of information on the current research activities in the fields not only of coordination chemistry but also of other related sciences.

Support from the Japan Society of Coordination Chemistry, the Chemical Society of Japan, and the Tokyo Club is very much appreciated. I would like to thank Professor Hitoshi Ohtaki and Professor Kazuhiko Ozutsumi and the many people of Ritsumeikan University for the perfect arrangement of these symposia and for their wonderful hospitality. My sincere thanks are due to Professor A.B.P. Lever (York University, *Chief Editor of Coordination Chemistry Reviews*) for his great effort in the arrangement of this special issue. Finally, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the contributors who have kindly arranged time in their busy schedules to prepare the manuscripts.

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