

Preface to the 20th International Conference on Coordination and Bioinorganic Chemistry

The jubilee 20th International Conference on Coordination and Bioinorganic Chemistry (ICCBIC) was held in Smolenice Castle Slovak Republic, June 6–10, 2005, and continued the tradition founded by Professor Ján Gažo in 1964. These conferences are the only scientific events organized in the field of coordination, bioinorganic, pure and applied inorganic chemistry held regularly (biannually) in one place (Smolenice Castle) and in the same period (the first week of June).

The conferences have always been open to new ideas in the field, not excluding any branch of coordination and related chemistries. The meetings have intermingled the communities of coordination, inorganic and bioinorganic chemists who have set milestones for developments in these research fields of importance for progress in science and society.

We are pleased to state that the traditionally high scientific level, warm discussions, initiations of future cooperation and inspiring atmosphere were dominant features of the 20th ICCBIC. There was the usual very high standard of contributions presented by almost 100 participants from 27 countries from all over the World. These documented both the fading away of any frontiers between the level of chemistry in developed and developing countries, and the importance of mutual communication between scientists irrespective of any artificial divisions.

Within the 20th ICCBIC, 4 invited and 26 plenary lectures, 64 sections lectures and 15 poster contributions were presented. As

a matter of tradition, PhD students or young under-30 scientists were offered the possibility to present their results in the form of oral presentations in the young scientists session and 15 of them reaped the benefit of this occasion.

The organizers would like to express many thanks to all participants for their outstanding scientific results, open-hearted conversations and the creation of the friendly atmosphere of this conference.

The majority of the participants also expressed their desire to take part in the next conference which is preliminarily scheduled for June 2007.

This special issue of Coordination Chemistry Reviews contains the essence of the invited and plenary lectures of a review nature read within the conference.

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