

The 2nd International Conference on Polyolefin Characterization (ICPC) took place in Valencia, Spain, from September 14 to 17, 2008. It gathered 120 participants, 67 from industry, 41 from academia, and 12 from vendor companies, to discuss new developments and applications in the area of polyolefin characterization and properties. A total of 35 oral presentations were given in sessions dedicated to Thermal Analysis, Separation and Fractionation, Rheology, Molecular Structure and Properties, and Spectroscopy. The 2nd ICPC also counted with an extensive poster session that included 38 presentations. A total of 24 countries in Europe, Africa, Asia, North and South America were represented in this truly international event.

The members of the organizing committee started the ICPC conference series in 2006 with the main objective of hosting a world class technical conference that fills the industrial and academic need to share information on and to improve the understanding of polyolefin characterization. In our second meeting, we saw the number of participants increase and were pleased with the quality and scope of topics covered in both oral and poster presentations. It was also a pleasure to welcome Professor

Minoru Terano as a new member of our organizing committee. I also believe I speak for the vast majority of the attendees when I say that the spirit of collegiality and scientific exchange was one of the highlights of the conference. It is one of the organizing committee goals to foster this free exchange of ideas during our future meetings.

It is a pleasure to have some of these oral and poster presentations translated into articles in this issue of Macromolecular Symposia. On behalf of the 2nd ICPC organizers, I would like to thank all the authors for taking the time to prepare such an exceptional collection of papers on different polyolefin characterization techniques.

The success of the 2nd ICPC supports our original vision that such a conference is indeed needed by the researchers working in polyolefins worldwide. We are currently planning the 3rd ICPC, which should take place in Shanghai, China, in the fall of 2010. Readers interested in being included in the conference's mailing list are welcome to send their requests to [raquel.ubeda@icpc-conference.org](mailto:raquel.ubeda@icpc-conference.org). We hope to see you all in Shanghai next year!

*João B. P. Soares*



2nd ICPC organizing committee members standing on the courtyard of the Westin Valencia, where most of our most productive scientific exchanges took place: João B.P. Soares, Minoru Terano, Raquel Ubeda, Benjamin Monrabal, and Colin Li Pi Shan.