

From August 2–7 2009, the 18th International Symposium on Olefin Metathesis and Related Chemistry (ISOM XVIII) was held in Leipzig, Germany. A great number of internationally recognized researchers, including the Nobel Laureates in Chemistry 2005 Professors Robert H. Grubbs and Richard R. Schrock, gathered together for fruitful discussions and presented their latest cutting edge results. The attendees of this conference clearly demonstrated in more than 60 talks and almost 100 posters that the field of metathesis with all its aspects in alkene and alkyne metathesis, theory and mechanism, catalyst and initiator design, catalyst immobilization,

and its applications in organic synthesis, polymer chemistry, medical chemistry, materials science and in chemical engineering is a very vivid one, bridging the gaps between different disciplines with many exciting new developments.

In this issue of Macromolecular Symposia some of these results and novel developments are summarized and give a picture of the present status quo and novel developments. It is still with great expectations that we are looking forward to the future of metathesis!

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