



Preface

Sixteenth International Conference on Flow Injection Analysis Including Related Techniques (ICFIA 2010)

The 16th International Conference on Flow Injection Analysis and Related Techniques (ICFIA 2010) was held at the Garden Sea View Resort Hotel in Pattaya, Thailand, during 25–30 April 2010. The conference was held jointly with the Japanese Association for Flow Injection Analysis (JAFIA). Also, the newly established Thai Association for Flow-based Analysis (Thai-AFA) contributed to this meeting. It was hosted and organized by Duangjai Nacapricha, Mahidol University, Orawon Chailapakul, Chulalongkorn Uni-

versity, and Jaroorn Jakmunee and Kate Grudpan, Chiang Mai University. Professor Gary D Christian has continued to support the Conference since it was first organized in 1987 in USA. ICFIA has been similar to Talanta in terms of encouraging and promoting researches in every geographical part of the world. This leads to different aspects of opportunities. Under the typical atmosphere of ICFIA, with easy going but high degrees of academic interaction, friendly collaborations among multi-nations as well as multi-generations have been observed.



There were 189 participants at ICFA 2010, from twenty countries and from five continents. The scientific program included 44 oral presentations and 145 poster presentations. Starting in the Monday morning session with an invited opening lecture, Gary Christian (University of Washington, USA) traced the evolution of flow injection analysis and related Conferences. Following the lecture, a PowerPoint slideshow presentation, along with some (historical) photos and music, provided remembrances from pioneers and other prominent members of the FIA community. Descriptions of what interested them in FIA and their views of historical developments and some of their key contributions, indicate how FIA and kindred techniques were developed in various places, and also emphasizes the usefulness of the techniques. Selected parts of the information were extracted out and put into an article in this special issue, “How did Flow Injection Analysis, and its related techniques, develop in various parts of the globe? Reflections of prominent FIA practitioners” (doi:10.1016/j.talanta.2011.04.040).

Ltd., representing Foss, and Thai Unique, Ltd., representing Lachat Instruments.

Annually, The Japanese Association for Flow Injection Analysis announces the prestigious FIA Awards. At ICFA 2010, the prestigious FIA Awards for Science were presented to *Petr Solich* and *Duangjai Nacapricha* at the Conference banquet. The FIA Honor Award for Science was presented separately to *Bo Karlberg* (University of Stockholm) and *Ari Ivaska* (Abo Akademi University) who were not present at the conference. In the 48th annual meeting of JAFIA (held in Osaka Prefecture University, November 27th, 2009), the FIA Award for Science was presented to *Kei Toda* (Kumamoto University), and the FIA Award for Younger Researchers was presented to *Hiroshi Shiigi* (Osaka Prefecture University).

As a tradition for ICFIAs, social activities are always arranged, and for ICFA 2010, an opening ceremony and welcome party with cocktails was held at the swimming pool. This offered a chance for regular and new attendees to meet. A typical Thai barbeque was



The oral and poster contributions were diverse in a broad spectrum, including instrumentation, detection systems, reactors, flow gradients, microfluidics, separations, preconcentration, speciation, reagents, and applications. The ICFA program ended with an invited closing lecture on Friday by *Victor Cerdà* (University of the Balearic Islands, Spain), discussing current and future projects in flow analysis from his laboratory, emphasizing instrumentation and various applications.

Instruments and literature were exhibited by Bangkok High Lab Co., Ltd., representing FIALab Instruments, and providing electrochemical, photometric and microfluidic systems; eDAQ, providing detectors and software for FIA, electrophoresis, and chromatography; Fortunesci, representing international companies for fittings, sample preparation, and chromatography; Merck, for chromolith columns and high purity solvents for HPLC, Sithiporn Associates Co.,

held Tuesday evening for diners in a style “cook their own food on a grill-pot”. Wednesday was a traditional day for excursions, with visits to Nongnooch Tropical Botany Garden, and including colorful Thai dancers and an elephant show, to the Suphattra Land farm for experiences with a variety of Thai fruits, and in the evening to the famous Tiffany show, a Pattaya well-known show, followed by a stroll along the “Walking Street”. The conference banquet and party was held on Thursday evening, with Thai performances and music with local instruments, and game entertainment by participants.

A Conference report on the ICFA 2010 may be found in: G.D. Christian, *JFIA* 27 (1) (2010) 66–70.

ICFA 2011(17th ICFA), the next conference, will be held in Krakow, Poland, July 3–8, 2011, hosted by *Pawel Kościelniak* at Jagiellonian University. Details may be obtained

by e-mail: koscieln@chemia.uj.edu.pl or from the website: <http://www.chemia.uj.edu.pl/icfia2011/>.

This Special Issue represents 36 peer reviewed papers submitted by conference attendees, including the lead article on the reflections of prominent FIA practitioners. They provide an excellent cross-section of research on instrumentation and a variety of applications of the flow-based techniques.

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