

Editorial

Special Issue dedicated to the XVIII Congress of SIBAE (Sociedad Iberoamericana de Electroquímica)

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This special issue of *Portugaliae Electrochimica Acta* includes some of the papers presented in the different *symposia* during the *XVIII Congress of SIBAE* which was held in Medellín (Colombia) from 10 to 14 March 2008.

This Congress was organized by an Organizing Committee conducted by Prof. Dr. Mario V. Vázquez (Universidad de Antioquia) as President, the other members being Dr. Jorge Calderón, Dr. James A. Smith, Dr. Ricardo A. Torres P., Dr. Franklin Jaramillo and Ing. Paula Montoya (Universidad de Antioquia) and Dr. Carlos I. Sánchez, Dr. Vaselina Pasova and Dr. Javier González (Universidad Nacional Sede Medellín). This Organizing Committee also included some members from other Colombian Universities: Dr. William Lizcano (Universidad del Valle), Dr. Dionisio Laverde (Universidad Industrial de Santander), Dr. Germán Cuervo (Universidad de Cauca), Dr. Enrique Vera (Universidad Pedagógica y Tecnológica de Colombia) and Dr. María T. Cortés (Universidad de Los Andes).

The Scientific Committee was coordinated by Dr. Jorge Calderón (Universidad de Antioquia) being Ing. Diego Vasco and Ing. Nheder Sánchez the Secretaries. It was constituted by Dr. Miguel Angel Esteso (España), Dr. Felipe Hernández-Luís (España), Dr. William Lizcano (Colombia), Dr. Germán Cuervo (Colombia) and Dr. Marcela Cortés (Colombia) (*Fundamental Electrochemistry*); Dr. Sonia R. Biaggio (Brasil), Dr. Oscar Rosa Mattos (Brasil) and Dr. Dionísio Laverde (Colombia) (*Corrosion*); Dr. Carlos León Rojas (Costa Rica), Dr. Enrique Vera (Colombia) and Dr. Walter Torres (Colombia) (*Electroanalysis*); Dr. José María Bisang (Argentina), Dr. Julien Françoise Coleta Boodts (Brasil), Dr. Carlos Borrás (Venezuela) and Dr. Ignacio González (México) (*Environmental and Industrial Electrochemistry*); Dr. Walter Triaca (Argentina), Dr. Germano Tremiliosi-Filho (Brasil), Dr. Almir Oliveira Neto (Brasil) and Dr. Carlos

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Sánchez (Colombia) (*Electrochemical Conversion of Energy*); Dr. Ernesto Calvo (Argentina), Dr. Marília Goulart (Brasil), Dr. Felipe González (México) and Dr. Ana Maria Oliveira Brett (Portugal) (*Molecular Electrochemistry Bioelectrochemistry*); Dr. César Barbero (Argentina), Dr. Roberto Manuel Torresi (Brasil), Dr. Ricardo Schrebler (Chile), Dr. Enrique Dalchielle Lueiro (Uruguay) and Dr. Reynaldo Ortiz (Venezuela) (*Electrochemistry of Materials*). The Congress was accomplished according to the following symposia:

Fundamental Electrochemistry

Corrosion

Electroanalysis

Environmental and Industrial Electrochemistry

Electrochemical Conversion of Energy

Molecular Electrochemistry Bioelectrochemistry

Electrochemistry of Materials

Each one met with the presence of distinguished colleagues in the field, being appropriate to emphasize the presence of the invited Plenary Lecturers Professor Dr. Christos Comninellis (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Lausanne, Switzerland), Professor Dr. Daniel Scherson (Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, USA), Professor Dr. Christopher M.A. Brett (University of Coimbra, Portugal), Professor Dr. Jean-Michel Lèger (University of Poitiers, CNRS, France) and Professor Dr. Bernard Tribollet (University Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris, France).

Moreover, the development of the above mentioned program included the exhibition of different Invited Lectures, Oral Communications and Posters. Finally, two awards for the best posters were granted by Autolab Eco Chemie.

The Congress brought together an important group of electrochemists from both sides of the Atlantic Ocean to present and discuss their advances and improvements in the different fields of Electrochemistry, contributing to the development and upgrading of the Iberoamerican Community.

During 5 intensive days, all of the delegates enjoyed not only the scientific program but the glamour of Colombia as well, through the kindness and charming of our Colombian colleagues, which offered the best of themselves at the service of the success of the meeting. We would like to express our best thanks to all members of the Organizing Committee, as well as to the members of the Scientific Committee, for the success of the event.

Finally, we necessarily thank the financial assistance of the meeting supporters (*Vicerrectorado de Extensión*, University of Antioquia, Colombia; The International Society of Electrochemistry (ISE); The Electrochemical Society (ECS); Medellín Convention Bureau; Avianca; The Academy of Sciences for the Developing World; Cocoltec Ltda. Tecnología de Análisis; Basi). We are

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Guest Editors

Miguel A. Esteso

Mario Víctor Vázquez