

Report on the 9th ISE Spring Meeting, May 8–11, 2011, Turku, Finland

The 9th Spring Meeting of the International Society of Electrochemistry was held at the Mauno Koivisto Centre in Biocity, Turku, Finland, from May 8 to May 11, 2011. The theme of the meeting was “Electrochemical Sensors: From Nanoscale Engineering to Industrial Applications”, which attracted 223 participants from 35 countries. This was the first time an ISE meeting was held in Finland.

The Meeting was organized jointly by ISE Division 1 (Analytical Electrochemistry) and ISE Division 5 (Electrochemical Process Engineering and Technology). The program included 4 keynote lectures, 12 invited lectures, 58 oral presentations, more than 100 posters and an instrument exhibition.

The Opening ceremony on Sunday evening, May 8, was followed by a Special session celebrating the International Year of Chemistry (IYC 2011). In this session, the importance and success of electrochemistry was highlighted by Christopher Brett (Portugal), and Christian Amatore (France) described further how electrochemistry helped to reveal the biomedical properties of Egyptian black makeup. After these enlightening presentations the evening was concluded with a Welcome reception sponsored by the City of Turku.

The program for the following three days from Monday to Wednesday included four main sessions, each starting with a keynote lecture (40 min) which was followed by two parallel sessions. Keynote lectures were given by Michael Mirkin (USA) “Nanoscale electrochemical sensors prepared by electrodeposition, Justin Gooding (Australia) “Nanoparticle architectures for improving selectivity and sensitivity of electrochemical affinity biosensors”, Jiri Janata (USA) “Work function potentiometric sensors” and Ritu Katakya (UK) “Chiral sensing and its significance”.

Each of the parallel sessions started with an invited lecture (30 min) followed by oral presentations (20 min). Invited lectures were given by Gordon Wallace (Australia), Richard Baldwin (USA), Richard G. Compton (UK), Serge Zhuiykov (Australia), Andrzej Lewenstam (Finland), F. Xavier Rius (Spain), Dermot Diamond (Ireland), Eric Bakker (Switzerland), Robert E. Gyurcsanyi (Hungary) and Li Niu (China).

Poster sessions were held on Monday and Tuesday. The poster prize (300 €) was awarded to Takeshi Irisako from Tokyo University of Science (Japan).

We were fortunate to enjoy excellent Spring weather during the whole conference, including Tuesday evening when the conference dinner was held at Restaurant “Naantalin Kaivohuone” in the old town of Naantali by the sea.

I would like to thank all participants for your excellent scientific contributions! I also want to thank the Organizing Committee, Local Organizers, Student helpers and especially the ISE Office for your precious help in organizing the meeting. Financial support from the City of Turku, Elsevier, Fortum Foundation, IJ Cambria Scientific LTD, Neste Oil Corporation, Outotec Oy, Research Institute of Åbo Akademi Foundation, Thermo Fisher Scientific Oy, Åbo Akademi Process Chemistry Centre and Åbo Akademi University is gratefully acknowledged. Thank you all for making the 9th ISE Spring Meeting a success!

Johan Bobacka, Chair of the 9th ISE Spring Meeting