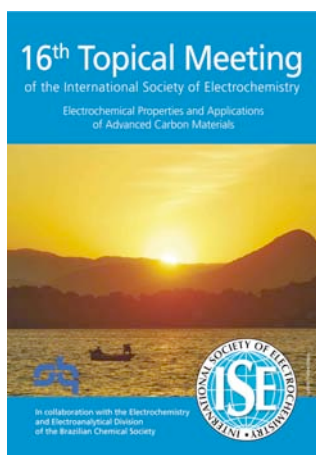


Report on the 16th ISE Topical Meeting – Angra dos Reis, Brazil, March 22-26, 2015



The 16th Topical Meeting of the International Society of Electrochemistry was held at the Vila Galé Eco Resort of Angra. The meeting was co-organized with the Division of Electrochemistry and Electroanalytical Chemistry of the Brazilian Chemical Society (SBQ), which has a cooperation agreement with ISE since 2008. The 164 participants (plus about 20 accompanying persons) came from 31 countries and, similarly to what happened in a previous topical meeting organized in Brazil (the 6th Spring Meeting, 2008), the regions of the world with most participants were the Americas (55 %) and Europe (34 %) – see list by country at the end of this report. The venue, an all-inclusive resort located on a beach surrounded by hills covered with Atlantic forest, provided many opportunities for relaxing moments as well as social interaction among the participants.

The theme of the meeting was “Electrochemical Properties and Applications of Advanced Carbon Materials”. Thus, recent advances on the preparation, electrochemical characterization, and application of advanced carbon materials (e.g., diamond, diamond-like carbons, graphene, fullerenes, and carbon nanotubes) were extensively discussed. Applications of these materials in areas such as energy conversion and storage, electroanalysis, biosensing, environmental remediation, and electrosynthesis were covered. Highlights of some of the latest advancements were presented in 4 keynote lectures, 18 invited lectures, 59 oral, and about 80 poster presentations.

A welcome reception was held in the beginning of the evening, on Sunday, March 22nd, when many of the participants were introduced to *caipirinha*, a Brazilian typical cocktail made with *cachaça*, lime or lemon slices, sugar, and crushed ice. On Monday morning, after the opening ceremony, which had the participation of the SBQ president-elect, Aldo José Gorgatti Zarbin, a review of the state of the art in the area of advanced carbon materials was carried out by four keynote speakers: “Modern approaches to the atomic-level design of functional carbon materials” – Robert Hurt (Brown Univ., USA); “Thin, transparent, and conductive films of nanocomposites based on carbon nanotubes and graphene” – Aldo J. G. Zarbin (Paraná Federal Univ., Brazil); “Diamond for electrochemical applications: from electrode arrays to diamond foam” – by Christoph Nebel (Fraunhofer Inst. for Applied Solid State Physics, Germany); “Carbon electrodes for molecular electronics” – Richard McCreery (Univ. of Alberta, Canada).

Starting on Monday afternoon, two oral sessions were run in parallel till the end of the meeting at noon on Thursday, involving 18 invited lectures and 59 oral presentations. The invited speakers were David Fermin (Univ. of Bristol, Bristol, United Kingdom), Claude Deslouis (Univ. Paris VI, France), Takeshi Watanabe (Keio Univ., Japan), Carlos Alberto Martínez-Huitle (Federal Univ. of Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil), Vadym Mochalin (Drexel Univ., USA), François Béguin (Poznan Univ. of Technology, Poland), Christopher Brett (Univ. of Coimbra, Portugal), Lauro Kubota (Univ. of Campinas, Brazil), Dirk Guldi (Univ. of Erlangen, Germany), Daniel Bélanger (Univ. du Québec à Montreal, Canada), Craig Banks (Manchester Met. Univ., United Kingdom), Greg Swain (Michigan State Univ., USA), Alison Downard (Univ. of Canterbury, New Zealand), Manuel Andres Rodrigo (Univ. de Castilla-la-Mancha, Spain), Osamu Niwa (National Inst. of Advanced Industrial Sci. and Tech., Japan), Orlando Fatibello-Filho (São Carlos Federal Univ., Brazil), Bing-Joe Hwang (National Taiwan Univ. of Sci. and Tech., Taiwan), and Enric Brillas (Univ. de Barcelona, Spain). In the two poster sessions, held in the beginning of the evening on Monday and Wednesday, with an open bar, 81 presentations were programmed.

Considering that Angra dos Reis lies in the center of the Costa Verde (Green Coast) in the state of Rio de Janeiro, characterized by a mountainous lushly green landscape just by the sea, with several bays and many islands, on Tuesday afternoon many of the participants enjoyed a traditional nautical tour on a schooner, with stops at islands in the Angra Bay. At the same time, other participants enjoyed a tour to the historic city of Paraty, located not too far from Angra. A farewell dinner was held on Wednesday evening, with live Brazilian-music entertainment, which invited many participants to dancing.

Before closing, we wish to thank all the participants, whose excellent oral and poster presentations contributed to the excellent scientific quality of the meeting. We specially thank our colleagues of the Organizing Committee and the Local Organizing Committee, as well as Thierry Lenzin (ISE office) and Mário Lopes Rocha (Pinhal Turismo), who contributed very much to the organization and success of the meeting. The financial support provided by Brazilian agencies CNPq, CAPES, FAPERJ, and FAPESP is gratefully acknowledged.

Greg M. Swain and Romeu C. Rocha-Filho

Co-Chairmen, 16th ISE Topical Meeting

Number of participants in the 6th ISE Spring Meeting per country:

Argentina – 2, Austria – 1, Brazil – 71, Belgium – 1, Canada – 2, Chile – 9, China – 2, Czech Republic – 3, Estonia – 5, Finland – 1, France – 8, Germany – 6, India – 1, Ireland – 2, Japan – 3, Kazakhstan – 1, Korea – 1, Netherlands – 1, New Zealand – 1, Poland – 6, Portugal – 3, Puerto Rico – 1, Saudi Arabia – 1, Slovenia – 1, South Africa – 5, Spain – 5, Switzerland – 5, Taiwan – 2, Turkey – 1, United Kingdom – 7, USA – 6.