

Report on the 61st Annual ISE Meeting, Nice, France, September 26th-October 1st.

The 61st Annual meeting of ISE, held in the convention center Acropolis in the center of Nice attracted 1862 participants including 571 students from 60 different countries.

Nice is the focal point of the French Riviera. Charming markets, narrow lanes, and all the enchantments of France, including art, food, and gorgeous architecture are present in Nice. Nice still has an undeniably sophisticated touch, with its café terraces and emblematic, palm-lined seaside promenade stretching for several miles along the water. It is also a fertile ground for innovation, scientific research, universities, and exchange.

The main theme of the Meeting was “Electrochemistry from Biology to Physics” to represent the forefront of science and not only the forefront of electrochemical science. This theme was chosen so as to give a feeling of where electrochemistry stands today, and to demonstrate the enormous potential of electrochemistry for tackling future problems which emerge not only in its own fields but also in important areas which pertain to other sciences of high importance for knowledge and humanity welfare.

At the Opening Ceremony, the participants were welcomed by Jean-Marc Lardeaux, Vice-President of Research at Nice University, Robert Hillman, ISE President and Bernard Tribollet Chair of the OC. The 2009 ISE Award winners were announced by Sharon Roscoe, ISE Secretary General.

The scientific contributions from the participants were extensive and excellent in quality. The five plenary lectures were presented by Andrew Ewing (Sweden), Gerald S. Frankel (USA), Allen Bard (USA), Philippe Allongue (France), and Galina Tsirlina (Russia) who gave the lecture on behalf of Oleg A. Petrii (Russia), winner of the Frumkin Memorial Medal 2009. The other award winners included Olaf Magnussen (Prix Jacques Tacussel), Serge Cosnier (Katsumi Niki Prize for Bioelectrochemistry), Patrice Simon (Tajima Prize), Karl Mayrhofer (Hans-Jürgen Engell Prize), Carlos Martinez-Huitle (Oronzio and Niccolò De Nora Foundation Prize of ISE on Environmental Electrochemistry), Charles Delacourt (Oronzio and Niccolò De Nora Foundation Prize of ISE on Applied Electrochemistry), Dan Brett (Oronzio and Niccolò De Nora Foundation Prize of ISE on Applied Electrochemistry), Chih-Yu Hsu (Oronzio and Niccolò De Nora Foundation Young Author Prize). In total the program included 5 plenary lectures, 76 keynote lectures, 695 oral communications and 1179 posters presentations, distributed among 16 Symposia. The poster presentations were separated into two sessions, for each of them a reception was organized in the poster and exhibition area with food and drinks. As usual, two tutorial courses were proposed to delegates on Sunday afternoon: “Redox Protein and Redox Enzyme Electrochemistry: Fundamental Studies and Applications” with lectures by Philip Bartlett and Christophe Léger, and “Electrochemical Quartz Crystal Microbalance” with lectures by Robert Hillman and Hubert Perrot. Both were extremely successful, with 170 to 200 attendees each.

The participants could also enjoy many social activities during the week. The Welcome Reception on Sunday evening and the two exhibitors and posters receptions Monday and Tuesday evening were greatly successful, with a large participation.

Participants had the choice of four excursions: 1) Grasse with a visit of a perfumery where it was possible to create ones own perfume, 2) Monte-Carlo and Monaco, with the visit of the charming medieval village of Eze, 3) Tourettes sur Loup and St Paul de Vence, the most visited village in France, 4) Nice with the Cimiez and Marc Chagall Museum.

The banquet, on Thursday evening, started with a reception on the terrace of Palais de la Méditerranée followed by a three course dinner in the salon “Le Vénitien”. The 515 participants appreciated the performance of magicians playing at each table.

During the conference, ISE held meetings pertaining to the organization of the Society: Regional Representatives’ Meeting, Division Officers’ Meeting, Council Meeting and General Assembly. Each of the seven Divisions of ISE held a luncheon meeting in which the members were asked to provide input and suggestions for future activities, especially at the forthcoming Annual Meetings.

We would like to express our gratitude to all the delegates for their excellent oral and poster presentations contributing to a high quality scientific meeting, to student helpers, coming from many different French Universities, for their enthusiastic activities and efficiency, to the members of the Organising Committee and to the Symposium Organisers for their useful cooperation and to the staff of the ISE Office for the administration of the meeting. Special thanks also go to all who contributed in any way to the organization, sponsorship and success of the Meeting.

Best wishes,
Bernard Tribollet and Christian Amatore
Co-chairs of the 61st Annual ISE Meeting.