

Preface

The Third International Congress of the Cuban Chemical Society was held 1–4 December 1998 at the Capitolio de la Habana, Cuba under the sponsorship of the Cuban Chemical Society and the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC).

Aims of the Congress were to present and discuss in a wide cultural and social atmosphere, recent scientific, industrial, and pedagogical advances in all fields of chemistry through Plenary Lectures, Oral Presentations, Round Tables, and Poster Exhibits

The high scientific standard of the Congress, the large participation of international specialists, and the exchange with more than 400 Cuban chemists participating in the event created a fine working atmosphere, reinforced old friendships, and cultivated new ones for future common projects.

Principal scientific attractions of the Congress were the Plenary Lectures, for distinguished chemical personalities of world reputation were invited. IUPAC has accepted responsibility for the publication of these lectures in its official journal *Pure and Applied Chemistry*. In this issue are published four Plenary Lectures from outstanding specialists. I would appreciate receiving your comments via e-mail to <lballes@ciq.uo.edu.cu>.

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