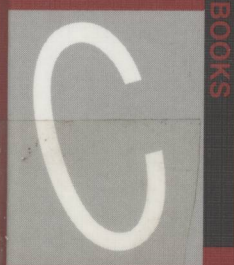


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12th INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON CATALYSIS



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PREFACE

The twelfth Congress on Catalysis was held in Granada (Spain) under the auspices of the International Association of Catalysis Societies and the Spanish Society of Catalysis. Those Proceedings are the expression of the Scientific Sessions which constituted the main body of the Congress.

They include 5 plenary lectures, 1 award lecture, 8 keynote lectures, 124 oral presentations and 495 posters. The oral and poster contributions have been selected on the basis of the reports of at least two international reviewers, according to standards comparable to those used for specialised journals, among 1045 two-page abstracts received from 53 countries. The submitted camera-ready manuscripts were then evaluated by the International Scientific Board. Fortunately, most of the corrected manuscripts were received in due course and have been included as such in the Proceedings; however, in a few exceptions, no answer was obtained from the authors; in those cases, a first version of the manuscript appears in the Proceedings. In order to accommodate all these contributions, the Congress was divided in four parallel sessions and three additional sessions in which all the posters were displayed. The management of this fantastic volume of work forced us to take several decisions. As the contributions are published prior to the meeting for distribution to all delegates who attend the Congress in Granada, no discussions at the meeting have been included. Besides this, for space reasons we were restricted to expand the works to only six-page text.

Financial contribution from the Ministry of Education and Culture, the National Council of Scientific Research, other local and national institutions or corporations, chemical, refining and petrochemical companies made it possible to balance the budget of the Congress. Allowance for young students to pay a reduced registration fee was also possible from this income.

We are grateful to the outstanding scientists, expert in different fields of catalysis, who accepted our invitation to overview vital research areas in plenary lectures, the 1998 awardee by his illustrative conference and the keynote lecturers that introduce the various topics of the sessions covered by the Congress. The Organisers are indebted to all the scientists who accepted our invitation to come to Spain and made this meeting another outstanding success in the 44 year tradition of this event. We hope everybody will enjoy the meeting and will find these Proceedings a useful book to be added to the catalysis library. We are also grateful to Drs. A. Jongejan, managing director, Dr. P.S. Jackson, publishing director, and specially to Drs. Huub Manten of Elsevier Science Publishers for the guidance and co-operation provided in getting these four volumes printed before the Congress.

Granada, July 2000

The Editors

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