

Preface

Over the past decades the application of nano- and biomaterials has substantially grown in high-tech industries. A colloidal approach to nano- and biotechnology was one of the main topics of the 2007 meeting organized by the Hungarian Chemical Society in cooperation with leading Hungarian universities and the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. The goal of the 9th Conference on Colloid Chemistry and the previous meetings was to bring together scientists, engineers from universities, industries and research institutions to exchange views on the latest developments and perspectives in the applications of colloidal systems.

The scientific programme of the conference included 71 oral lectures and 70 posters. Participants came from 23 countries mainly from Europe but researchers visited us from the countries of other continents, from Israel, Japan, Thailand and from the United States. The meeting also gave opportunity for many young researchers (40 students) to present their work and join the scientific community. Three poster prizes were issued, two of them in memory of the late Hungarian colloid chemists, *Ferenc Szántó* and *Ervin Wolfram*.

During the three-day meeting the most important aspects of science, technology and applications of colloid chemistry were presented in specified sessions: “Nanoparticles” and their “Colloid Systems”, “Nanolayers, Drug Delivery Systems”, “Porous Systems, Surfaces” and “Polymers, Gels, Biocolloids”.

Listening the oral presentations and studying the posters it repeatedly turned out that “The world of neglected dimensions” should not be neglected at all in modern material sciences and technologies.

This volume contains a selection of the contributions demonstrating the progress of the field and new possibilities in materials science and biomedical applications.

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