

EDITORIAL

The 6th Scandinavian Symposium on Chemometrics took place in Porsgrunn, Norway on 15–19 August 1999. A total of 175 participants enjoyed 36 contributed (and four invited) lectures as well as more than 40 posters during four days of an intense social meeting. The organizing committee looks back on a job well done; the many responses received in the intervening year support this view. However, no matter how successful the social aspect of an international scientific conference, the most important lasting impact will of course always be the documentation of the scientific results of the conference.



For this issue the present guest editor had the pleasure of working with no less than 42 submitted manuscripts, from which a total of 26 papers can be found included here. All Wiley guest-edited journal issues undergo the exact same peer review as the regular journal issues. However, guest editors also have a certain scientific role to play, and in the current context this role was especially orientated towards bringing forth as many representative applied chemometrics papers as possible, in keeping with the work presented at SSC6, while maintaining the high quality of refereeing for all papers published in the *Journal of Chemometrics*.

This issue contains the majority of the accepted papers presented at SSC6. However, in 2001 there will be a subsequent special issue on 'Sampling', which will include Pierre Gy's papers from this conference (and a few other new, related papers). A third special issue related to the conference will be an issue in 2001 dedicated to Harald Martens, who was presented with the Third Herman Wold Gold Medal 'for outstanding achievements in chemometrics' at SSC6.

No journal editor, permanent or guest, would be able to function without help with all the important practical, secretarial and many other editorial tasks, which together are just as important as the strictly scientific issues. At SSC6 it was my distinct pleasure to be helped by two competent and very devoted assistants, Mrs Inger Hedvig Matveyev (conference manager) and Mrs Anita Dale Thomassen (conference secretary). The latter also served as my editorial assistant for this issue. I cannot here express enough my gratitude to Anita for her total professional competence in all of her work, and her dedication to detail, without which the editorial process would surely have collapsed. Most of all I thank her for her excellent work attitude, her everlasting good mood and especially her care for others in the team. It has been a pleasure, indeed an honour, to work with you, Anita!

KIM H. ESBENSEN
Guest Editor