



Editorial CAC 2002

The manuscripts in this special issue of *Analytical Chimica Acta* are contributions that were presented at the CAC 2002 Conference. CAC 2002 was the eighth international conference on chemometrics in analytical chemistry and was held in Seattle, Washington in the US, from 22 to 26 September 2002. It was organized under the auspices of the North American/International Chemometrics Society by a local organizing team, presided by Dr. Barry Wise from Eigenvector Research Inc. The venue was the well-known Washington Athletic Club Center, a place with ample and excellent conference facilities. There were 160 participants present, originating from 24 different countries. Participants from outside the US formed about 50% of the total. Also Asian countries, such as Korea, were represented.

The program was organized around themes that reflect the important issues in chemometrics research, and included application-oriented research as well as more methodologically oriented research. The conference themes were hyper-spectral image analysis; process chemometrics, curve resolution, graphical methods, environmental applications, bioanalytical

applications, genetic algorithms, artificial neural networks and data mining, and calibration.

It can be stated that this CAC Conference was again very successful and interesting. The many contributions, the posters as well as the lectures, certainly have challenged the participants to develop new approaches to solve the major scientific challenges in chemometrics. We are convinced that everyone is already looking forward to CAC 2004 that will be held in, Lisbon, Portugal, from 20 to 23 September 2004. The website for CAC 2004 is located at <http://dequim.ist.utl.pt/cac2004/>.

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