PREFACE

Scientists worldwide will know that EUCMOS XX, which should have been held in Zagreb, Croatia, in 1991, had to be cancelled owing to the civil war which unfortunately still rages in what was Yugoslavia. It was consequently decided to bring forward EUCMOS XXI by a year and this Congress was held in Vienna from the 23-28 August 1992. These volumes contain the Proceedings of what turned out to be a most successful meeting attended by more than 400 participants from 40 different countries.

During the opening ceremony, Professor Jeanette G. Grasselli was elected an Honorary Member of the Austrian Society for Analytical Chemistry and Professor Bernhard Schrader was awarded the Friedrich-Emich Medal for his achievements in Raman spectroscopy.

A highlight of the Congress was the Nobel lecture given by Professor Richard R. Ernst, the 1991 Nobel Laureate for Chemistry. He delivered a clear and vivid account of the developments that he has made in NMR spectroscopy and their many applications in chemistry, physics and medicine.

The scientific work presented during the meeting ranged over the following topics:

- 1) Molecular structure and interactions;
- 2) Surface analysis;
- 3) Hyphenated techniques;
- 4) Optical sensors (3rd Vienna Opt(r)ode Workshop);
- 5) Computer-aided molecular spectroscopy;
- 6) Theoretical aspects;
- 7) Biological pathways;
- 8) Phase transitions and order phenomena:
- 9) Molecular electronics;
- 10) General analytical applications.

The papers were of a very high standard and, as usual, the participants were able to interact widely through personal and group discussion. The editors would like to thank all the authors who have contributed to these Proceedings.

The social programme was exceptional, including a splendid reception in the Vienna City Hall and a banquet in the Palais Ferstel where the diners were entertained by an excellent Viennese orchestra.

The XXIInd EUCMOS will be held in Essen, Germany, during 11-16 September 1994. Details from:

Professor Dr Bernhard Schrader, Fachbereich Chemie, Universität Essen,

D-4300 Essen 1,

Germany.

A.J. Barnes

W.J. Orville-Thomas

R. Kellner

K. Taga

W. Landvoigt

Vienna, November 1992