

Welcome to ICOS-16, Welcome to Mérida, Yucatán, México

In the last two decades several countries have become major exponents of the advancement of chemistry worldwide. Examples are Spain, China, Korea, and others. The invitation to host the 16th International Conference in Organic Synthesis in México presents a great opportunity to motivate our young students to the study of chemistry and to facilitate the interaction and collaboration of Mexican chemists with those abroad. Perhaps not far away in the future México can also become a protagonist country in the area of chemistry!

The 16th International Conference on Organic Synthesis is co-sponsored by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), Academia Mexicana de Ciencias (AMC), Sociedad Química de México (SQM), and the Division of Organic Chemistry of the American Chemical Society (ACS). It is important to acknowledge the support received from the many sponsoring institutions and companies whose logos are showed in the back cover of this book.

Hoping to match the fantastic success achieved in previous conferences of this series, ICOS-16 has secured the participation of twenty two outstanding plenary speakers who will discuss many aspects of creative modern organic synthesis, as well as 36 invited experts who will partake in six symposia in the areas of "Medicinal Chemistry", "Organocatalysis", "Enantioselective Synthesis of β -Amino Acids", "Organolithium Compounds in Synthesis", "Selenium and Tellurium in Organic Synthesis", and "Applications of Microwave in Organic Synthesis". Finally, nearly 300 oral and poster contributed presentations have been scheduled.

In order to promote and facilitate interaction between participants, several social events are being arranged; these include the welcome brindis at the University of Yucatán's central building on Sunday, a performance by the Yucatán's Folkloric Ballet at Mérida's Main Theater on Monday evening, an excursion to the archeological site of *Uxmal* in the afternoon of Wednesday, and the Conference banquet at a majestic setting (Quinta Molina) on Thursday evening.

We very much hope that your stay in Mérida will be both scientifically beneficial and culturally enriching.

Eusebio Juaristi,
Chairman of the Organizing Committee
IUPAC ICOS-16

Organization

Organized by:

International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), Organizing Committee of IUPAC ICOS-16, Academia Mexicana de Ciencias (AMC), Sociedad Química de México (SQM).

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Editorial

The central position of Organic Synthesis as a dynamic area with an intense research, technological and industrial activities has long been recognized, and the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) has played an important role promoting this topic and organizing a series of successful International Conferences on Organic Synthesis (ICOS) around the world since three decades [1].

ICOS-16 is organized by the IUPAC, Academia Mexicana de Ciencias (AMC), Sociedad Química de México (celebrating its 50th Anniversary this 2006), the Division of Organic Chemistry of the American Chemical Society, and the ICOS-16 Organizing Committee. This is the first time that an IUPAC ICOS is held in Mexico.

The first IUPAC meeting in Latin America was the 6th International Symposium on Natural Products Chemistry, which was held in Mexico City in 1969, and co-organized by the Sociedad Química de México (SQM). At that time, Dr. José I. Bolívar Goyanes (SQM) was the Chairman and Prof. Paul D. Bartlett (Harvard University) was the IUPAC representative. Derek H. R. Barton, Carl Djerassi, Oskar Jeger, Jesús Romo and Kenichi Takeda were some of the plenary speakers. The lectures and abstracts of that meeting were published in the *Revista de la Sociedad Química de México* [2].

Following this line and considering the excellence of the scientific programme, this Special Issue of the *Journal of the Mexican Chemical Society* (former *Revista de la Sociedad Química de México*) is dedicated to the 16th International Conference on Organic Synthesis (ICOS-16). This issue includes the Conference Program and the abstracts of all the participants, and intends to register properly the contributions presented in the Conference, seeking to promote this important topic of Chemistry.

Guillermo Delgado
Editor

1. Bull, J. R. *Pure & Appl. Chem.* **2005**, 77 (7), iii (Foreword).
2. *Rev. Soc. Quím. Méx.* **1969**, 13 (2), 62A-80A and 90B-96B