Series Editors' Preface

Molecular imprinted polymers (MIPs) did develop tremendously during the last few years as a complementary and tailor-made technique for solid-phase extraction (SPE) and as a replacement of the biological part of biosensors. During many years many scientists did refer to MIPs as plastic antibodies, because of their long stability as compared to the well-known limitations of antibodies.

That being said, I am very delighted to introduce Volume 86 of the *CAC* series on MIPs with Mariusz Marc as editor. Great thanks to him and to the book chapters' coauthors for all efforts made. The book provides all necessary information for MIPs synthesis and applications as SPE materials, in microextraction techniques, in separation methods like electrophoresis, mass spectrometry and as electrochemical sensors. The use of MIPs in the emerging green chemistry application field is also highlighted.

The book contains 12 chapters on a variety of topics, starting with synthesis and properties, but the most impressive part corresponds to the list of applications. Nine out of 12 chapters describe applications to food, in situ analysis and trace metal separation among others.

No doubt that this volume was written by a great team of "MIPs" experts. I would like to thank all of them for their time and effort to complete such a unique book in this series that will serve to the global chemistry community and beyond. This book will be extremely useful as a practical guide, a hybrid between a conventional book and a handbook to learn more about MIP practicalities.

Finally, I would like to add some bad news. Unfortunately during the preparation of this book one of the authors, an old friend of mine and outstanding analytical chemistry professor, Jacek Namiesnik, died in Gdansk. My sincere condolences to his family and to his Polish friends, many of them contributors to this excellent MIP book. Jacek's death was a tremendous loss to our scientific community. Will miss you a lot Jacek!

PROF DR D. BARCELÓ
IDAEA-CSIC, Barcelona and ICRA, Spain
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