

OPENING

4TH MASS SPECTROMETRY MEETING

Welcome to the 4th Portuguese Mass Spectrometry Meeting

We are very pleased for having you here to participate in this meeting, and we should like to address a special welcome to those who came from other countries.

This 4th Mass Spectrometry Meeting follows other three meetings organized by the Mass Spectrometry Group of the Portuguese Chemical Society. There is, however, a big time gap between this meeting and the other three. Those meetings were organized in the nineties, the 1st was held in 1993 at the University of Aveiro, the 2nd in 1995 at the University of Lisbon and the 3rd, organized by the New University of Lisbon, was in 1997.

With the initiative of organizing this meeting we hope that we revive the Mass Spectrometry Meetings of the Portuguese Chemical Society and we will do our best so that you do not have to wait another 13 years to come back to the 5th Portuguese Mass Spectrometry Meeting!

The inescapable role of mass spectrometry in a variety of scientific and technological fields is worldwide recognized. Mass Spectrometry in Portugal has evolved and consolidated, namely through re-equipment programs, and experienced a quantum leap in recent years with the establishment of the Portuguese Mass Spectrometry Network by the Foundation for Science and Technology. This Network, including at present nine Universities and research Institutes, is a forum for scientific discussion, fostering inter-collaboration and providing a core of instrument facilities and know-how, for research, development, services and advanced training. We believe it to be the start-up for the establishment of a useful and fruitful nation wide R&D network based on mass spectrometry know-how and facilities.

We owe very special thanks to our invited guest speakers who honour us with their presentations. We should like to thank, in particular, Professor Albert Heck and Professor Jaap Boon who accepted to come to Portugal with the purpose to give a lecture in this meeting. Professor Albert Heck is with us today. Unfortunately, for health reasons, Professor Jaap Boon could not make it.

We also want to thank all scientists who offered to share their best and most up to date discoveries in mass spectrometry, at the MS2010 meeting, by means of blitz and poster presentations.

We should also like to highlight that partnership with manufacturers and companies, that we want to thank, played a crucial role in setting up this meeting. A special mention to Dias de Sousa, Unicam Portugal and Advion is here due. Topic lectures by Bruker, ThermoScientific and Advion scientists are greatly acknowledged.

We want to thank all our sponsors, listed on the meeting program, and who enabled us to cover some costs and other special activities. Awards for best presentations are courtesy of Jacqueline Dias de Sousa Foundation.

The two days of the conference provide the participants with a variety of formats and opportunities for intense debates, ranging from high-level special guest lectures, topic lectures, blitz presentations, poster sessions, Network and Mass Spectrometry group meetings, to a lively exhibition area for exchange and informal gatherings.

We wish you a very productive meeting.



Maria Helena Florêncio

