Guest Editorial

This issue of the Journal of Membrane Science is devoted to selected papers presented at the International Symposium "Progress in Membrane Science and Technology", held at the University of Twente, The Netherlands, June 25–28, 1991

The meeting was organised on the occasion of the retirement of professor dr. C.A. Smolders, who has directed the Membrane Technology group at the University of Twente for 23 years. The purpose of this meeting was to present a collection of papers on past achievements in membrane science, but mainly to enable enthusiastic membrane technologists to discuss the current state and future of this rapidly developing field of separation technology. The broadness of the field can be judged from the variety of papers which have been presented, ranging from the formation of macrovoids and nodules (Smolders et al.) to the development of modules (Knops et al.) and from the fundamentals of mass transport through membranes (Wesselingh) to membrane applications (Bandini et al., Bleha et al. and Kreulen et al.).

With its ca. 250 participants from 26 countries the conference hosted a very competent audience which contributed to the success of the symposium. This is one of the main reasons to organize a follow-up in 1994 (June 28–July 1).

The organizers would like to thank all participants for their contributions and the authors for the preparation of the manuscripts which are now available in this special issue.

Finally I would like to wish all the best to Kees and Leny Smolders.

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