

Editorial

CHISA - Worldwide Meeting for Chemical Engineers in the Heart of Europe

Dear Reader,

You've just opened a special issue of Chemical Engineering & Technology, which is composed of articles based on contributions presented at the 22nd International Congress of Chemical and Process Engineering CHISA held on August 27-31 in Prague, Czech Republic.

The term CHISA originates from the Czech acronym for "Chemical Engineering, Chemical Equipment Design, and Automation". The CHISA history started in the second half of the 20th century. The first International Congress of Chemical Engineering placed in the center of Europe was held in 1962 in Brno, Czechoslovakia. In 1964, it continued in Mariánské Lázně and since 1972, the congresses have always been taking place in Prague. The relaxed atmosphere of Czechoslovakia's politics and culture of the sixties provided a chance for chemical engineers from east and west to gather together. In the context of the time, it was an extraordinary fact and event alike. And: what started as a predominantly eastern and western European venture, has meanwhile evolved into its present form, which can - without exaggeration - be called a worldwide meeting for chemical engineers.

The CHISA 2016 congress addressed the full spectrum of chemical and process engineering topics, such as reaction and catalysis engineering, separation processes, fluid flow and multiphase systems, computer-aided process engineering, and pharmaceutical engineering. Additionally, nine specialized symposia were organized to bring together specialists in environmental engineering, thermodynamics, nanostructures and nanocomposites, food processes, biotechnology, process intensification, and miniaturization. We strived to include the most interesting contributions covering the presented topics in this special issue.

Nowadays, when a simple query in the Web of Science database can yield hundreds of scientific articles and it poses no problem discussing these with scientists all over the world using ResearchGate and modern communication technologies, organizing conferences like CHISA may seem pointless. However, the unrelenting interest in the CHISA conference displayed by the chemical engineering community proves how vital personal contact and face-to-face discussion are - not only for researchers and students, but for science in general.

I want to thank the CHISA 2016 Scientific and Organizing Committees for providing an excellent platform to facilitate such discussions for scientists from all around the world.

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