



Greta Bergamaschi (in the centre), winner of Pulidori Award

Begoña García Ruiz
Department of Chemistry
Universidad de Burgos (Spain)
begar@ubu.es

ISMEC 2013 SYMPOSIUM AND 6TH EDITION OF PULIDORI AWARD

The 2013 edition of the International Symposium on Metal Complexes (ISMEC 2013) (www3.ubu.es/ismec2013/), took place in Burgos, from the 16th to the 20th of June. Burgos is a medieval city located at the crossroads in northern Spain; it has been three-fold awarded as World Heritage site, for the Pilgrims Way to Santiago, the impressive gothic Cathedral and the archeological Atapuerca Site. The meeting was held at the Aula de Romeros at the Conference Centre in *Hospital del Rey*, the historical main building of Burgos University. *Hospital del Rey* was founded in 1195 by the King Alfonso VIII as a real Hospital to take care of the pilgrims in their way to St. James in Santiago de Compostela. Important restructuring and restoration works have been carried out from the XVI century until today.

120 participants from 17 countries attended the Conference, coming from every side of the world.

From the scientific standpoint, the program consisted of 7 Plenary Lectures delivered by well-known researchers, i.e. Bernhard Lippert (Dept. of Bioinorganic Chemistry, Technical University Dortmund, Germany) who talked on "Small molecules with great opportunities: Coordination Chemistry of cis- and trans-platin with nucleobases"; Pablo Espinet (IU, CINQUIMA-Química Inorgánica, Universidad de Valladolid, Spain) with the title: "The Making of Homogeneous Catalysis: Coordination Chemistry at Work"; Nicholas V. Hud (School of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Georgia Institute of Technology Atlanta, GA, USA) with the conference title: "Metal Ion Interactions in Nucleic Acid Folding and Structure"; Roger Alberto (Institute of Inorganic Chemistry, University of Zürich, Swiss): "Fundamental Bioorganometallic Technetium and Rhenium Chemistry in Targeted Molecular Imaging and Therapy"; Wolfgang J. Parak (Biophotonics Group, Philipps-University of Marburg, Germany) with the title: "Metal and Metal-Composite Particles for Delivery and Sensing in Biological Applications"; Bruno Chaudret (Laboratoire de Physique et Chimie de Nano-objects, Institut National des Sciences Appliquées, Toulouse, France): "Synthesis and Surface Chemistry of Organometallic Nanoparticles"; Jörg Grunenberg (TU Braunschweig, Germany): "How Strong is Strong? Compliance Constants as Unique Bond Strength Descriptors". In addition, five very interesting key-note lectures were pre-

sented by young researchers: Benjamin Murray (Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland); José V. Cuevas Vicario (University of Burgos, Spain); Giampaolo Barone (University of Palermo, Italy), Tarita Biver (University of Pisa, Italy); Pablo J. Sanz, (University of Zaragoza, Spain). The scientific program was completed with 28 oral contributions and 59 poster presentations, covering all the key topics on which the ISMEC 2013 Symposium is focused: bioinorganic and medicinal chemistry, nucleic acids and metal complexes, metal complexes and cations of environmental interest, molecular recognition, nanoparticles and atomic quantum cluster, coordination chemistry and reactivity, homogeneous catalysis, properties of metallic complexes and metal ions, stereoselective synthesis, computational chemistry, sensors based on metal complexes and structure-properties relationships in metal compounds.

ISMEC 2013 has incorporated, as a novelty, a brokerage special session aimed to promote the intermediation between participants, encouraging young researchers to exchange knowledge, sharing common points of scientific interest, and opening new scientific collaborations in the near future. The sessions consisted of offering/receiving proposals of collaborations. All attendants were aware of those others who might share common interests, in a way such that the bilateral or multilateral meetings run efficiently on a personalized fashion, giving way to further future contacts.

As to the 6th Pulidori Award, there were four young applicants, all of them of a very high scientific level. The Scientific Committee examined in detail both the curricula and papers presented and the final decision was in favor of Greta Bergamaschi from University of Pavia, who presented a lecture on "⁹⁹TcO₄⁻: Selective Recognition and Trapping in Aqueous Solution".

On behalf of the Organizing and Scientific Committees of ISMEC 2013, I would like to express our deepest thanks to the Burgos University, local authorities and sponsoring Institutions who have supported the conference and, of course, to all participants for having contributed to strengthen the ISMEC Conference.

The appointment for the next year is for ISMEC 2014, to be held in Pavia, in June 2014.