

Preface

The IUPAC-sponsored joint meeting of the 27th International Symposium on the Chemistry of Natural Products (ISCNP-27) and the 7th International Conference on Biodiversity (ICOB-7) was held in Brisbane, Australia from 10 to 15 July 2011. The meeting was co-chaired by Prof. Ron Quinn from Griffith University and Prof. Mary Garson from the University of Queensland.

The meeting brought together a broad cross-section of highly renowned scientists from academia, government, and industry, who presented their findings in 42 plenary and invited talks. An excellent diversity of contributed short talks were provided by a further 20 speakers. Three successful sessions were devoted to short (3 min) oral poster presentations given by 18 early-career scientists describing the research presented in their posters. A total of 76 posters were also presented. Scientists from 24 countries presented their research at the conference. Topics covered at the symposia included: discovery of new metabolites, isolation and structure elucidation, synthesis, neglected diseases, biosynthesis, engineered biosynthesis, chemical ecology, new methodology, and biodiversity. The chemistry from a rich diversity of sources was covered, including marine invertebrates, insects, plants, fungi, bacteria, myxobacteria, cyanobacteria, and even mammalian venoms.

The 14 papers included in this issue of *Pure and Applied Chemistry* are based upon lectures presented at ISCNP-27/ICOB-7. The papers represent a good cross-section of the major themes in natural products research presented during the meeting and demonstrate the multidisciplinary nature and extensive breadth of applications that natural products research can provide to the wider community. The next meeting in this series is scheduled to take place in Shanghai in 2013.

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Conference Editor