

## Preface

It was a privilege for me to have served as conference editor for this issue of *Pure and Applied Chemistry*. The nine papers in this volume constitute selected contributions from four symposia that took place at the 43<sup>rd</sup> IUPAC Congress, which was held in the Puerto Rico Convention Center, San Juan, Puerto Rico between 30 July and 7 August 2011. The theme of the congress, with more than 1300 scientific presentations, was “Chemistry Bridging Innovation Among the Americas and the World”.

The papers in this issue arise from four symposia that were part of one of the central themes of the congress, the “Chemistry of Life”. Four of the contributions [by Profs. Vanderlan Bolzani (Brazil), Abimael D. Rodriguez (Puerto Rico), Adriano D. Andricopulo (Brazil), and Néstor M. Carballeira (Puerto Rico)] arise from the symposium “Modern Medicinal Chemistry: Natural Products and Synthetic Molecules as Valuable Tools”, while one contribution [by Prof. George Kokotos (Greece)] was presented at the symposium “From Protein Structure to Cell Regulation”. Three other contributions [by Profs. Ken Kitajima (Japan), Dipak. K. Banerjee (Puerto Rico), and Adriana Pietropaolo (Italy)] are from the symposium “Balancing Life with Bioconjugates”, and the last contribution [by Prof. Julian Echave (Argentina)] is from the symposium “Structure Dynamics of Chemical and Biological Systems”.

We certainly acknowledge the great contribution made to this congress by the congress chair, Prof. Gabriel A. Infante, and the local organizing and scientific committees. We also acknowledge the different organizers and session chairs for the symposia from which these contributions were possible, in particular: V. Bolzani, A. Palermo, S. Campbell, and J. Colón for the medicinal chemistry symposium; D. K. Banerjee for the glycoconjugates symposium; A. Azzi, J. Pande, and M. Walsh for the protein-cell symposium; and M. Chergui and J. López Garriga for the structure dynamics symposium.

I would also like to thank the many scientific contributors to this conference, in particular, those who took the time to write a more thorough account of their science and were able to transform it into valuable papers for all of us to share and enjoy. We also thank the editorial staff for their valuable help and guidance.

**Néstor M. Carballeira**  
Conference Editor