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Editorial

Chemical and biochemical engineering for a new sustainable process industry in Europe



The very title itself was the slogan of the main scientific event in Chemical Engineering in Europe, held in Nice in September 2015, which combined the 10th European Congress of Chemical Engineering (ECCE10), the 3rd European Congress of Applied Biotechnology (ECAB3) and the 5th European Process Intensification Conference (EPIC5). These events were organised by the French Society of Chemical Engineering (SFGP) and Live! By GL under the auspices of the European Federation of Chemical Engineering (EFCE) and the European Society of Biochemical Engineering Sciences (ESBES).

The conference focused on four main societal challenges:

- Energy: new and unconventional resources, conservation and management
- Water management and treatment
- Biotechnology and food
- Industrial ecosystems

and addressed fundamental chemical and biochemical engineering research.

Approximately 1800 people from all around the world (67 nationalities) attended the conference. The participation of industrialists (25%) and students (31%) was highly remarkable. The scientific program was impressive, being composed of 5 symposia, 4 workshops, 6 plenary lectures, 82 keynotes and more than 700 oral communications organised in 202 sessions and 900 poster communications. These covered vast chemical and biochemical engineering topics, which reflected the latest scientific trends in their field.

For the first time in the history of this congress, a number of novel student events, including a student quiz, a thesis competition, a jobs forum and a breakfast meeting with senior researchers, was organised over the five days. These were greatly appreciated by the students, leaving them with unforgettable memories.

The exhibition area welcomed 39 companies in a very beautiful and pleasant space that was highly favourable for fruitful exchanges.

Several special issues of different peer-reviewed journals featuring selected papers from the congress will ultimately be published. This special issue of *Chemical Engineering Research and Design* collects 17 manuscripts which were pre-selected by the topic managers of the sessions devoted to Mixing & Multiphase flow; Computer-Aided Engineering – Process System Engineering; and Fluid Separation.

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