

Editor's Foreword

I am pleased to introduce this issue as a Guest Editor of *Kemija u industriji* at the request of the Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Danko Škare. Our first idea was to locate potential authors outside Croatia with deep roots in Croatia, The University of Zagreb or in one of the younger Croatian universities. Our more ambitious goal was to attempt to include the most recognizable author we can find in the world in order to lift the image of our journal to a new level of recognition. My personal limitation was the familiarity with only a rather narrow field of chemical science and technology – that of electrochemical power sources – which is reflected in the choice of papers presented here.

The Editor-in-Chief seems pleased with my choice of authors and subjects even after I, somewhat presumptuously, included one of my own papers. The subject of my paper is a work in progress which started several years ago and is only recently showing some progress. The problem I had, and still do, is of the kind most entrepreneurs would like to have: a standing customer with ready application, willing to pay a high price for the product if it can meet his performance requirements. We still have no rechargeable electrochemical power sources which can operate inside oil wells and depend solely on the primary batteries we have developed 25 years ago. We hope to change that soon.

The choice of Dr. Čaja as an author was easy. Educated at Zagreb University, with roots in Institute Ruđer Bošković and in Croatia Batteries, Dr. Čaja acquired experience in American university environment and a unique American experience in entrepreneurship. A sustainable operation of his company, doing cutting edge research and development in the area of power

sources with molten salts and ionic liquid electrolytes, may be a tempting inspiration to younger chemical engineers to follow, in Croatia, similar routes to their fortune and professional satisfaction. Teaming up with Dr. Katović, our colleague from Zagreb and a prominent American professor, greatly enhanced our original goal.

With the greatest of pleasure I am introducing a paper by Prof. Conway of University of Ottawa, Canada. Last year we have celebrated 40th anniversary of my wife Lili's and mine arrival from Zagreb to his laboratory as postdoctoral students and it has been 40 years of most inspired education and friendship. I cannot possibly get involved here in describing the contribution of this distinguished professor to the electrochemical science nor do I think it necessary for any reader remotely interested in electrochemistry. The modern North American electrochemistry has its roots in the teaching of four distinguished Europeans, Bockris, Conway, Delahey and Tobias, who arrived at these shores in 1950s and of whom only Conway is still active in the field. From his first book, which we used during our post graduate work in Zagreb, through his other books and over 300 papers, to the latest seminal monograph on electrochemical supercapacitors, Prof. Conway took part in training of many generations of electrochemists while, also, seeking unique solutions to the practical problems of electrochemical science and technology.

I welcome the papers of Prof. Conway, Dr. Čaja and Prof. Katović to the pages of *Kemija u industriji* and wish to thank them for sharing with us their data, thoughts and ideas.

Nikola Marinčić
Guest Editor