

## **International Congress on Analytical Sciences (ICAS 2006)**

25-30 June 2006, Moscow, Russia.

The congress was held at the Congress Centre of the Russian Academy of Sciences, situated close to a scenic park region on a high bank of the Moskva-river not far from the city center. The aim of the congress was to allow analytical chemists from around the world to exchange ideas, discuss new developments, and form collaborative alliances so that the international community of specialists in this field can better meet the demands of environmental protection, biology and medicine, new technologies, and higher education.

The congress was organized by the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS), with the participation of the Vernadsky Institute of Geochemistry and Analytical Chemistry, Lomonosov Moscow State University, and the Kurnakov Institute of General and Inorganic Chemistry. IUPAC, the Analytical Chemistry Division of the European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences, and Co-Operation on International Traceability in Analytical Chemistry (CITAC), also helped organize the conference.

Following the tradition of the ICAS meetings, emphasis was placed on new developments and applications in modern analytical sciences, including analysis of materials, atomic spectrometry, biochemical/biomedical analysis, chemometrics, chromatography, education, electroanalytical chemistry, electrophoresis, environmental analysis, flow analysis, food analysis, mass spectrometry, metrology and quality assurance, micro total analysis systems, molecular spectrometry, new instruments and systems, pharmaceutical analysis, radioanalytical methods, sample preparation, sensors, separation science, speciation, surface analysis, X-ray / electron spectroscopy, and general aspects of analytical chemistry.

B. Ya. Spivakov (congress chairman) presided over the opening ceremony. Welcoming speeches were delivered by Yu. A. Zolotov (head of the Russian Scientific Council on Analytical Chemistry), N. A. Plate (vice president of RAS), Yu. M. Louzhkov (mayor of Moscow), R. Lobinski (president of the Analytical Chemistry Division of IUPAC), A. V. Lapshin (president of Exhibition Holding MVK).

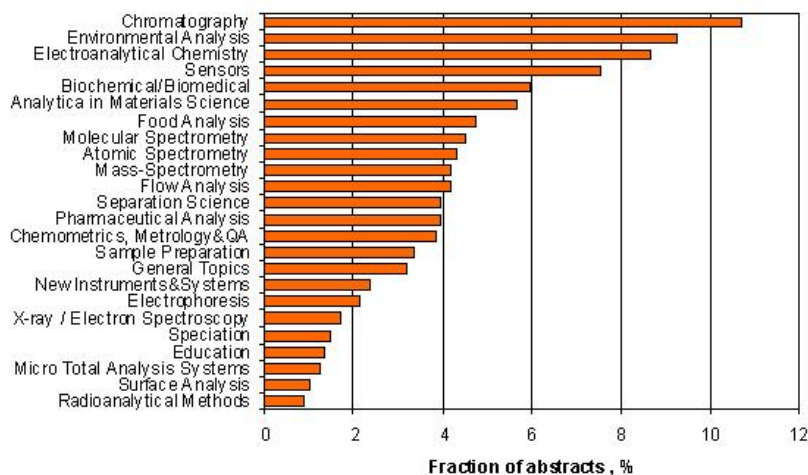
Each day of the congress was opened by joint plenary morning sessions, followed by four to five parallel topical morning/evening sessions. The congress program included 5 plenary sessions (9 speakers), 30 oral topical sessions (170 presentations including 40 invited), and 3 posters sessions (more than 500 posters). The organizers received about 900 abstracts. More than 700 persons from 45 countries attended the congress.

A number of prominent scientists presented plenary and keynote lectures:

- Nobel Prize winner K. Tanaka (Japan), "Innovation from Fusion of Interdisciplinary Analytical Sciences"
- Yu. A. Zolotov (Russia), "Analytical Chemistry in Russia: Most Important Achievements"
- P. Haddad (Australia), "Faster, Smaller, Smarter: New Developments in Ion Chromatography"
- D. Günther (Switzerland), "Laser Ablation Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry on the Way to Becoming Mature"
- G. Hieftje (USA), "New Sources, Spectrometers, and Capabilities for the Analytical Laboratory"
- P.J. Worsfold (UK), "Flow Injection Techniques for Investigating Dynamic Environmental Systems"

- E. Wang (China), "Some Aspects of Self-Assembled Nanostructures and Electrochemistry"
- A. Manz (Germany), "Continuous-Flow Focusing and Separations on Chip"
- M. Mascini (Italy), "DNA Biosensors for Hybridization Detection"

The topical distribution of submitted abstracts is shown in the figure below. Chromatography, electroanalytical methods, development of sensors, biochemical/biomedical analysis, and methods for environmental analysis comprise more than 40 percent of submissions



Famous specialists in metrology (R. Kaarls, P. De Bievre, Yu. A. Karpov, I. Kuselman, A. Squirrel, L. Besley, and others) delivered interesting lectures (with translations in Russian) that attracted many analysts working in Russian industry and laboratories dealing with routine analysis.

Workshops on metrology and quality assurance in chemistry (in cooperation with CITAC) and an exhibition of analytical equipment (in cooperation with exhibition company MVK) were held during the congress. CITAC, which is chaired by Vera Poncano, held its annual meeting at the Congress.

The Seventh European Furnace Symposium, which was dedicated to the 50th anniversary of the electrothermic atomic absorption method, was held in St.Petersbourg from 2-6 July 2006 as a post congress event.

During the closing ceremony, some young scientists were awarded prizes for their excellent poster sessions. The prizes were given by the journals Analytical Sciences (Japan Society for Analytical Chemistry) and Spectrochimica Acta Part B: Atomic Spectroscopy (Elsevier Publishing House). Among the winners were Diego Camila Duran (Colombia), Ivan Spanik (Slovak Republic), and Iwona Szpakowska (Poland), and Timur Labutin (Russia).

The next ICAS meeting will be held in Japan in 2011 and it will be dedicated to the 60th year of the Japan Society for Analytical Chemistry.

Materials from the Congress were issued in a book of abstracts (two volumes and 719 pages) and on CD. Information on the Congress is still available at <[www.icas2006.ru](http://www.icas2006.ru)>.

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