

FOREWORD

The MATH/CHEM/COMP 2002 Dubrovnik International Course & Conference on the Interfaces between Mathematics, Chemistry and Computer Sciences (Dubrovnik: June 24–29, 2002) was dedicated to Professor Milan Randić on the occasion of his 70th birthday and Professor Nenad Trinajstić on the occasion of his 65th birthday. Organizers of the MATH/CHEM/COMP 2002 decided to collect papers in honour of these two distinguished Croatian scientists and to publish them in the Proceedings. However, one issue of this journal (a special issue entitled Mathematical Chemistry – *Croatica Chemica Acta* **75** (2) (2002) 319–661) was already dedicated to Professor Randić. An invitation was therefore extended to Professor Trinajstić's students, former and present co-workers, colleagues, friends and his teachers to contribute to the Proceedings of the MATH/CHEM/COMP 2002. An unexpectedly large number of papers arrived at the Editorial Office of our journal. For this reason, the decision was made to publish the Proceedings without contributions dedicated to Professor Trinajstić and to publish a special issue dedicated to him. The Proceedings of the MATH/CHEM/COMP 2002 have already appeared (*Croatica Chemica Acta* **76** (2) (2003) 113–187) and the issue dedicated to Professor Trinajstić is in your hands.

At first we wanted to prepare this issue as an issue on Mathematical Chemistry and Computer Chemistry, which constitute Professor Trinajstić's main research topics. Since quite a few papers arrived that do not belong to either Mathematical Chemistry or to Computer Chemistry and since Professor Trinajstić has always been interested also in other fields of chemical research, including the history of chemistry and science, we decided to publish all papers that received favourable reports. As a consequence, all published papers are ordered chronologically according to the date of their acceptance for publication.

I thank the authors for their contributions and for the friendly response reflected in such an unexpectedly large number of contributions. I thank the reviewers for their prompt and rigorous reports and friendly collaboration. I apologize to the authors for the delay in publication due to the technical problems related to handling such a large number of papers in a much too short period of time. It has been my privilege and pleasure to correspond with the authors and the reviewers. Thank you all very much for a pleasant collaboration.

I wish Professor Nenad Trinajstić a happy birthday, many happy returns of the day and fruitful continuation of his research!

Sonja Nikolić
Guest Editor