

## **FOREWORDS**

During the 17<sup>th</sup> Symposium on Analytical and Applied Pyrolysis, held in Budapest, our research group from IRNAS-CSIC was proposed as organizer of the next Symposium. Now, two years after, and on behalf of the Organizing Committee I have the great honour to welcome all you to the 18<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Analytical and Applied Pyrolysis (PYR08) held in the Canarian village of Tegui, Lanzarote, Spain, during May 18-23, 2008. Lanzarote is known as the land of fire, one of Spain's most beautiful areas and an ideal place to host this meeting.

This PYR edition is organized under the auspices of the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation (MICINN), Spanish Council for Scientific Research (CSIC), Canarian Government, Canarian Universities of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (ULPGC) and La Laguna (ULL), and the local authorities from Lanzarote (Cabildo de Lanzarote and Ayuntamiento de Tegui).

The Journal of Analytical and Applied Pyrolysis (JAAP) is a prestigious Elsevier journal that serves scientists who study thermal processes of materials. Every other year, this group of scientists organizes this International Meeting that is among the most prestigious conference in the field. We are expecting that PYR08 in Lanzarote will continue the tradition as the premier forum for the presentation and discussion of cutting-edge scientific advances in basic and applied pyrolysis, setting the trend for the development of this discipline.

This edition of the Symposium has exceptional exposure in fields like novel applications of pyrolysis in the environment and forensic sciences, the search for new materials, polymers, alternative energy source and in the structural elucidation of complex organic materials that may help in a better comprehension of the carbon cycle and Global Climatic Change. More than 200 top scientists and industry professionals from more than 30 countries from all over the world will attend PYR08. This edition has a very intense programme that include 10 Invited Key Lectures, 66 Oral and 180 Poster presentations.

We will like to thank PYR08 Organizing Committee for their constant work in the hard tasks needed for a successful meeting, the Scientific Committee for valuable advice and the production of our solid and outstanding Scientific Program and to all donors, sponsoring companies and expositors for their support without which the Lanzarote PYR08 would not have been possible.

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