

## Editorial

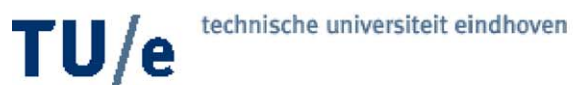
*‘The times, they are ‘a changin’* and the Special Issue lying before you is the living proof of that. For a number of years, you as *“Progress in Organic Coatings”* reader, have been presented the scientific fruits of the famous Athens Conference on Organic Coatings, condensed in written papers in your favourite journal. After a successful series of Athens Conferences for about 30 years, its owners decided to postpone the scheduled 2004 event ‘indefinitely’. In view of the importance of the field of coatings science, the undersigned undertook to reinitiate a tradition of high-quality and scientifically oriented coating conferences dealing with a wide variety of coating related topics such as polymer-, colloid-, surface and interface chemistry and physics (organic–inorganic or hybrid) film formation, crosslinking, pigments and performance additives and characterization on molecular, nano- and macroscale. Researchers from Europe and the United States were invited to participate in the new Organizing Committee to prepare for the first in the new series of conferences and (nearly) all members of the Athens Advisory Board were included. After soliciting papers, a selection covering the topics intended was made at the end of last year and the program implemented this spring. Our initiative resulted in a lively conference from June 26 to July 1, named *“Coatings Science International”* (or *CoSi* for short), which was highly appreciated by the participants as reflected by the report by

Dirk Meine of Vincentz Network (Eur. Coat. J. 9 (2005) 58–59). The event was sponsored by Elsevier, Vincentz Network, Byk Chemie, The Dutch Polymer Institute and Polymer Technology Netherlands and took place in Noordwijk, The Netherlands, at the Hotels van Oranje. In this pleasant venue with its majestic view over the North Sea and the neighbouring beach, we were lucky to enjoy excellent weather. In spite of the tempting surroundings, a total of 34 lectures and 14 posters were presented to a well-attending audience. The lecture by Dr. P.J.A. Geurink was honoured by the innovation award, while the science award for the best presentation went to Dr. F. Micciché. The authors were invited to submit a full paper to *“Progress in Organic Coatings”*, subject to the usual reviewing procedure. In consultation with Elsevier, the Organizing Committee was of the opinion that the ‘a changin times’ would be best marked with a separate publication of these *CoSi* Conference papers in a Special Issue. The undersigned local organizers of *CoSi* were invited by Editor-in-Chief Professor Gordon Bierwagen to act as Guest Editors for the present volume and we happily accepted his offer. The present POC volume lying before you contains 19 papers of lectures delivered at the meeting. We think it gives a fair overview of the topics covered at the conference as well as the quality of the presentations. The report about the *COSi* 2005 event by Dirk Meine testifies that others share this opinion.



**Coatings Science International  
Conference Program**

**This Conference is sponsored by:**



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