

## FOREWORD

Increasing interest in polymer science over the past fifty years is due mainly to the spreading recognition of the unique chemical and physical properties of synthetic macromolecules and their impressive scope of application.

Whereas during the early years of polymer science polymer organic synthesis was the major challenging factor in the last twenty years polymer science has grown into a multidisciplinary field ranging from (pure) polymer chemistry to polymer physics and technology. In particular, studies of problems associated with the understanding of the relationship between the structural features of polymers and their properties have grown beyond the basic ideas and concepts. Experimental and theoretical attempts were made to define molecular behavior of polymers in solution, melt and solid state.

Having in mind these facts the Editorial Board of *Croatica Chemica Acta* decided to dedicate one of the special issues to the structure and properties of polymers. The authors have been invited to present their results and surveys of recent developments in the field.

The guest editors want to express their deep appreciation to all authors for their contributions. Our special thanks go to the members of the Editorial Board of *Croatica Chemica Acta* for their help in preparing this volume and to Mrs. V. Mikulčić for her smooth handling of the extensive administrative work.

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