

Preface

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Published online: 22 October 2013
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The *Future of Catalysis Symposium* was held at the SLAC Linear Accelerator Laboratory in Menlo Park, California during September 26–28, 2012 to honor the 60th birthday of Professor Jens K. Nørskov. The conference was scientifically organized and chaired by Felix Studt, Frank Abild-Pedersen, Thomas Bligaard, and Anders Nilsson. We are very grateful to: The Dean of Research of Stanford University, DASTI (the Danish Agency for Science, Technology, and Innovation), Haldor Topsøe A/S, the Innovation Center Denmark in Silicon Valley, and the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory for generous financial support of the symposium, and to Helle W. Wellejus for administrative support with the symposium organization.

The stimulating discussions between the more than 50 participants, who gave a total of 27 oral contributions and 18 posters presentations, were testament to the recent progress in the catalysis field, and to the excitement over what insights future research might bring as novel experimental and theoretical techniques are rapidly being developed and integrated.

We would like to thank all the symposium participants for making it a very successful meeting, and for taking up the challenge to speculate about the “Future of Catalysis”. We also wish to thank all those participants who agreed to author manuscripts for this special issue of Topics in Catalysis dedicated to our colleague and friend, Jens Nørskov.

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