Preface

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Although they represent a small constituent of milk and dairy products, minerals play an import role in technological, quality, and nutritional aspects of dairy products. Latest developments in dairy science and technology helped enhance our fundamental knowledge about milk minerals. Recently, a lot of results in the field have been obtained, and different models have been proposed to explain observed phenomena encountered in lab experiments or during the manufacture of dairy products. In this context, the 2nd International Symposium on “Minerals & Dairy Products” was organized by the University of Auckland in collaboration with the UMR Science and Technology of Milk and Egg of the French Research Institute INRA, in Auckland, New Zealand, from 26–27 October, 2014. This meeting was a follow up of the 1st International Symposium organized in Saint-Malo, France in 2008.

The main objectives of this 2nd symposium were to 1. Provide an update on scientific knowledge in different areas (Chemistry, Physics, Biochemistry, Technology and Nutrition) related to minerals; 2. Clarify the complex behaviour of milk minerals; 3. Identify unsolved problems; and 4. Propose new strategies in fundamental research and industrial research and development sectors. To achieve these goals, different themes were considered during this meeting, including the following: 1. Interactions of minerals with other milk constituents such as casein, whey proteins, and phospholipids); 2. The behaviors of milk minerals under processes including evaporation, filtration, high pressure, and heat treatments; 3. The influence of minerals on the technological and functional properties of dairy products; and 4. the nutritional aspects. About 130 participants from both academia and industry attended this meeting, and more than 80 oral and poster presentations were given.

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This event was a success with the help of the participants and sponsors who are too numerous to be named. Thus, we would like to thank all of them for their enthusiastic participation and financial support. We also take the opportunity to thank the organizing and scientific committees for their contributions.

This Special Issue of Dairy Science and Technology is dedicated to 2nd International Symposium on “Minerals & Dairy Products” and contains a selection of contributions presented during this meeting. We would like to acknowledge all the contributing authors for submitting their manuscripts to as part of this special issue and the reviewers for valuable comments and suggestions.

Finally, we hope that the readers of this special issue will find the papers relevant to their own work, stimulating, interesting, and enjoyable.