CONFERENCE REPORT

The Second European Meeting on Tandem Mass Spectrometry, Institute of Mass Spectrometry, University of Warwick, Coventry, CV4 7AL, July 19–22, 1992

A stimulating, full three days of oral presentations, poster session, exhibition and social program comprised the second European meeting on Tandem Mass Spectrometry. One hundred and fifty people representing 18 nations attended the meeting. Delegates were attracted from a wide catchment area, including Australia, North America, Hong Kong, and Israel. The meeting was small enough to retain single sessions and a cosy atmosphere. All posters were displayed throughout the meeting so that delegates could browse the posters and digest them at their leisure. The social program took its participants to Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwick, and The Potteries.

The success of the meeting owed much to the quality of the scientific program. The meeting was opened by Peter Derrick, who was followed by the first plenary lecturer, Barry Bycroft of the University of Nottingham's Department of Pharmacology. Barry Bycroft set the scene, delineating the nature of the problems encountered by the biochemist and molecular pharmacologist to which solutions were sought in tandem mass spectrometry. This theme was picked up by Bo Samuelsson, Steve Naylor, Marcel van Tilborg, Gareth Brenton, Ken Tomer, and Margaret Sheil as they led the discussion with lectures on biological applications of tandem mass spectrometry.

The second plenary lecturer was Urs Schlunegger, who introduced storage tandem mass spectrometry. Hilka Kenttämää delivered a keynote lecture discussing the virtues of tandem mass spectrometry applied to the n th power using Fourier transform mass spectrometry. In the Monday afternoon session, a variety of aspects of tandem mass spectrometry, from the physical to inorganic, were covered by John Holmes, Bill Griffiths, Roberta Seraglia, and Keith Fisher. The

long Monday program was concluded by the formal poster session.

David Russell opened the Tuesday program with a plenary lecture on tandem magnetic sector/time-of-flight mass spectrometry. Tony Stace picked up and developed the theme of time of flight. Vicki Wysocki covered surface-induced dissociation and was followed by Barry Wright and Dominique Despeyroux. Karoly Vekey and Caroline Bradley adopted juxtaposed positions to contend the cause of the energy loss in high-energy collisions. With lunch now weighing heavily on the delegates, any propensity to sleep through the afternoon proceedings was precluded by Jean-Claude Tabet. His lively discussion of applications set up a varied afternoon session. Asher Mandelbaum and Lee Tetler discussed fullerenes, and Anitti Hesso, Julia Cushnir, John Traeger, and Jim Scrivens covered a broad range of applications.

The Wednesday program was opened by plenary lectures from Nico Nibbering and John Todd, covering techniques in tandem mass spectrometry using ion trap devices. Colin Creaser, Ray March, and Dwight Evard continued the theme with more detail on specific items. Mike Gross was the final plenary lecturer and covered the recent developments in tandem mass spectrometry and commenting on the meeting. Mike Gross was followed by Bob Bordoli and Andrew Wright.

The conference dinner on Tuesday night was well attended. A vantage point was prepared which could have been mistaken for a high-table, from where John Beynon delivered an eloquent, measured, and entertaining speech.

An exhibition comprising 12 organizations included an FTMS instrument in addition to other materials. A degree of the success of the meeting was attributable to the enthusiastic financial support from the sponsoring organizations. We gratefully acknowledge ICI, Shell UK Ltd, Glaxo, SmithKline Beecham, Extrel FTMS, Kratos, Bruker, Fisons Instruments, Pfizer, and Finnigan MAT. Consultations have begun among the participants of the second European Meeting on Tandem Mass Spectrometry for the date and venue of the third!

John R. Trainor