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Every year since 1967 the Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic in Prague has organized international polymer symposia and discussion conferences on specialized topics of macromolecular science, known worldwide as Prague Meetings on Macromolecules (PMM). The PMM series continued already with its 73rd meeting: “New Frontiers in Macromolecular Science: From Macromolecular Concepts of the Living Matter to Polymers for Better Quality of Life”, held on July 5–9, 2009 in the premises of the Institute in Prague.

This time the meeting was somewhat special, as it was dedicated also to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Institute foundation. Therefore, the scope of the meeting was broader this time, covering all three main research directions in which the Institute is active recently, starting from bio-macromolecular systems through supra-molecular organization in polymers

to polymer materials for advancement in technologies.

It was our great pleasure to welcome 180 scientists and students from academic and industrial institutions of 25 countries, who had listen to very interesting 29 invited keynote and 9 short special lectures. The lectures and 107 posters stimulated exciting discussions. We would like to thank all participants for their active contribution leading to the success of this meeting. They created not only an excellent professional forum but also a very enjoyable and friendly company. Finally, our thanks belong also to sponsors and partners of the Institute for their support to the meeting and to the organizing committee, headed by Dr. Mirka Dušková, for their excellent work. Last but not least special thanks belong to the contributors to this issue for preparation of their papers.

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