

## Preface

In 2006, the International Conference on Applied Hair Science was two years old and was still in its infancy. Like any two-year-old, it was learning and developing its own personality and strength. In terms of attendance as well as papers presented, the second conference was as good, or even a little better, than the first one. I want to thank all the participants and the presenters for contributing their time and talent to the conference as well as to the common good of the cosmetic industry as a whole.

As was the case with the first conference, the papers of the 2006 conference were selected purely on the basis of their scientific content. However, it is difficult to make this judgment based on a relatively short abstract. Therefore, I would suggest that going forward we base the selection process on a two-page extended abstract of the presentation. Although I have mentioned it in my opening and closing statements at the conference, I would like to reiterate that we should try to concentrate on the science of developing and testing the efficacy of new materials and commercial hair care products. I recognize that this process may be difficult and complicated in the case of plant-based actives, but it is important to make an attempt to establish the chemical nature of the true active rather than the “extract.”

Because of the limited number of papers, we could not divide them into specific sections. The order this time is somewhat broad, the first half dealing with physical methods and the second half dealing with raw materials and products and related chemistry. At future conferences, we may make an attempt to invite papers in specific areas of hair cosmetics.

I thank all the participants for making this conference a success. I hope that the interest shown by the industry by way of sending their representatives and lending their sponsorships to this conference will endure, and that the conference will expand its activities in the future to serve the industry in return. I thank the Society of Cosmetic Chemists for its support and for agreeing to publish these papers in the *Journal of Cosmetic Science*. We appreciate the help of volunteers from TRI/Princeton and especially thank Eleanor Lehman and Dina Walker for organizing this conference and making it a success.

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