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Medicinal Chemistry

14–17 October 2003, Kyoto, Japan

The **5th International Medicinal Chemistry Symposium** (AIMECS 03), organized by the Asian Federation of Medicinal Chemistry (AFMC), is to be held in Kyoto, Japan from 14–17 October 2003. Previous symposia were held in Tokyo (1995), Seoul (1997), Beijing (1999), and Brisbane (2001).

The scope of medicinal chemistry has undergone noteworthy and scientifically intriguing expansion in recent years. In the 21st century, drug discovery and development are extremely important and challeng-

ing themes, and their solution will bring tremendous practical benefits to humanity. Therefore, AIMECS 03 will focus on the design, discovery, and development of new pharmaceuticals and novel bioactive molecules. This symposium will include individual sessions on chemistry for pharmaceuticals, pharmacology for pharmaceuticals, drug metabolism and toxicology, physiology for pharmaceuticals, structural-based drug design, and topics on pharmaceuticals.

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www.acplan.jp/aimecs03/

Polymers

24–27 November 2003, Bangkok, Thailand

The Kingdom of Thailand is profoundly proud and honored to host the **8th Pacific Polymer Conference**, 24–27 November 2003, in Bangkok. The conference is hosted by the Polymer Society of Thailand and co-organized by three renowned Thai universities: Chulalongkorn University, Mahidol University, and Rajamangala Institute of Technology.

This conference aims to bring together polymer scientists and technologists, from both academia and industry, to discuss current industry endeavors, discoveries and achievements in polymer science and technology, and to share insights and attractive

opportunities from a global perspective. In addition, it is hoped that this conference will help foster networking among colleagues from around the world.

The Pacific Polymer Federation was founded in 1987 to encourage and facilitate interactions between polymer organizations in the Pacific basin. Current members are polymer associations of Australia, Canada, Chile, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, the United States (ACS and APS), and Vietnam.

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www.ppc8.thai.net

Polymer Characterization

6–9 January 2004, Guimarães, Portugal

The **POLYCHAR-12 Forum** will be held in January 2004 at the University of Minho in Guimarães, which is located in the northwest part of Portugal, 50 km northeast of Porto. The previous forum, POLYCHAR-11, attracted participants from more than 40 countries. One of the goals of the forum is to give young scientists opportunities to present results as oral contributions or posters.

The forum will involve characterization, as well as synthesis, processing, manufacturing, and properties,

with an emphasis on predictions of service performance. All polymer-based materials, including thermoplastics, thermosets, heterogeneous and molecular composites, hybrids, blends, polymer melts and solutions will be covered. Scientific topics will include: predictive methods, synthesis, nanomaterials and smart materials, mechanical properties and performance, dielectric and electrical properties, surfaces, interfaces and tribology, rheology, solutions and processing, biomaterials and tissue engineering, natural and biodegradable materials and recycling, and characterization and structure-properties relationships.

A course on Polymer Characterization will be held