combinatorial screening of catalysts and processes for CO_2 copolymerization. It was found that $C_{60}(OH)_n$ is a useful catalyst for the process and that the use of plasmas is effective.

In sum, a large number of policy, sequestration, and mitigation strategies were proposed at CHEMRAWN XVII/ICCDU-IX. Adroit decisions and numerous effective technologies will be required to bring GHG emissions under control. As one conferee phrased it, "There is no silver bullet solution to the GHG problem, but there is silver buckshot."

As conference cochairs Keith Marchildon and Philip Jessop wrote: "This combined event . . . is more than just an exercise in organizational synergy and more than just the sum of two events that happen to have a substance, CO_2, of common interest. Some methods of CO_2 utilization are, or could be, on a large enough scale as to be able to contribute to mitigation efforts; an obvious example is enhanced oil recovery. But many smaller uses of CO_2 also share with mitigation the objective of sparing the earth's environment. So all parts of the conference have the same laudable environmentally beneficent objective, and all participants can take satisfaction in being part of an event that helps further this great cause.

John M. Malin <jmalin023@comcast.net> was the chair of the CHEMRAWN Committee in 2007; he has been involved with the committee since 1998.

Mendeleev Congress on General and Applied Chemistry

by Natalia Tarasova

The **XVIII Mendeleev Congress on General and Applied Chemistry** took place in Moscow 23–28 September 2007. The Congress celebrated the 100-year anniversary of the Mendeleev Congresses in Russia and the forthcoming 175th birthday of Dmitry Ivanovitch Mendeleev in 2009.

The congress was organized under the auspices of IUPAC, and the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, and the first deputy to the chairman of the Russian Government, Sergey Ivanov, both sent warm greetings to the participants. The president of IUPAC, Bryan Henry, welcomed the Congress on behalf of the global chemical community, and the mayor of Moscow, Jury Luzhkov (a professional chemist by trade and education), in an emotional speech stressed the importance of chemistry worldwide and specifically for Russia and Moscow.

The winners of the IUPAC Poster Prize for young chemists and the winners of the Special Prize for young chemists in the session "Catalysis, Petrochemistry, Refining," shown together with Oleg Nefedov (front row, center), president of Mendeleev Congress, and Natalia Tarasova (front row, second from left), chairman of the congress's International Advisory Committee.

More than 3 850 scientists—among them more than 1 000 young scientists and students—came to the Russian capital for the conference, representing 53 Russian towns and 7 countries in the Commonwealth of Independent States. Numerous representatives from the Russian Academy of Sciences, from Russian ministries and other governmental organizations, and from national chemical societies abroad were also in attendance.

The program included 17 plenary lectures on mainstream directions in fundamental chemistry, innovations in chemistry and chemical technology, and chemistry education. Lectures by Nobel Prize laureates J.-M. Lehn (France), R.R. Schrock (United States), and J.I. Alferov (Russia) drew particularly large crowds, as well as media attention. All told, 430 scientists made oral presentations during 77 sessions of 9 sections and 5 satellite international symposia. In addition, 2 173 posters (representing 13 500 authors) were presented, and 3 560 abstracts were published in the congress proceedings.

The most advanced directions in research, the newest approaches, and various perspectives on the different branches of chemistry were discussed at the conference, including nanotechnology, space research, synthesis of the new elements of the periodic table, energy and resource conservation, renewable energy sources, and health care. A symposium on "The Social Responsibility of Chemists: Green Chemistry" was particularly well attended, and aimed at disseminating new educational materials related to responsible stew-

ardship and addressed all aspects of chemistry (see Project Place p. 23; IUPAC project 2006-043-3-050).

The state of chemistry education was also thoroughly discussed, including current educational practices and innovations, the public's understanding of chemistry, chemistry education for gifted children and for modern industries, high school chemistry, and university-level chemistry.

In addition, two roundtables dealt with the "chemistry" of megapolicies and the problems of the interaction of the scientific and educational communities with business. Representatives from the Moscow government, oil and gas companies, and the academic end educational communities were trying to find consensus on these important issues.

The congress also approved recommendations on the development of chemical science, technology, and education in Russia. And the participants supported IUPAC's initiative designating 2011 the International Year of Chemistry.

Natalia Tarasova <nptar@online.ru> was chairman of the XVIII Mendeleev Congress's International Advisory Committee. She has been a member of IUPAC's Committee on Chemistry Education since 2002 and was recently elected a member of the Bureau.

Novel Materials and Fine Chemistry

by Yuping Wu

The **IUPAC International Symposium on Novel Materials and Synthesis** (NMS) was initiated in 2007. Since then it has been held jointly with the International Symposium on Fine Chemistry and Functional Polymers (FCFP), which was first held in 1985 in China and has been held almost annually since then. This year, the third NMS symposium (NMS-III) was held on 17–21 October 2007, again at Fudan University in Shanghai, China, and again in conjunction with FCFP (FCFP-XVII).

Fudan University, established in 1905, is one of the most famous universities in China. The name "Fudan" comes from the Confucian classics and means "unremitting effort." The university is situated in Shanghai City, the most dynamic metropolis in China and the home of the upcoming 2010 World Expo.

NMS-III was financially sponsored by IUPAC, the National Natural Science Foundation of China, Shanghai Key Laboratory of Molecular Catalysis and Innovative Materials, the Shanghai Society of Chemistry and Chemical Industry, and the National Basic Research Program of China (2007CB209700). Welcoming and opening addresses were delivered by cochairman Yingyan Jiang, head of the Department of Chemistry at Fudan University; Yi Tang, IUPAC representative; and Stanislaw Penczek.

More than 200 participants from 34 foreign countries and areas and some local delegates attended the conference. More than 10 foreign participants were from industry, including Sanyo Chemical Industries Ltd., TICONA GmbH, Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation, Givaudan Schweiz AG, DSM Pharma Chemicals, and Givaudan Ltd. The symposium mainly discussed novel polymers with different functions, novel organic chemicals, asymmetric synthesis and other synthesis methods, and novel energy materials, including solar cells, fuel cells, lithium ion batteries, supercapacitors and Ni-MH batteries, nanomaterials, and other novel materials and synthesis related to the environment, medicine, and fragrance. Prominent scientists such as Jean-Marie Lehn (France, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 1987), Jean-Pierre Vairon (France), Shinji Takeoka (Japan), Makoto Shimizu (Japan), Masahiro Yamashita (Japan), J.H. Choy (South Korea), Allan S. Hoffman (United States), Stanislaw Penczek (Poland), Dongyuan Zhao (China), Zhengzhong Shao (China), Yunqi Liu (China), and Klaus Kurz (Germany) presented their research. Various companies introduced their latest developments related to novel materials, and an NMS Nobel Laureate Lecture Room was established with the goal of having Nobel Laureates deliver public lectures during the symposium to help laypeople better understand science and technology.

Yuping Wu's group with Prof. Jean-Marie Lehn (France, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 1987), Prof. Chen (China) and Prof. Tang (China).