Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Colloids and Surfaces A: Physicochemical and Engineering Aspects

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/colsurfa

Editorial: 35th Conference of the European Colloid and Interface Society (ECIS 2021)

After two years of silence due to the COVID pandemic, the European Colloid and Interface Society community met again at the 35th Conference in Athens last September. Although the pandemic was still active, the Conference took place under a hybrid form: both by physical and by digital presence.

A full scientific program was established with four parallel sessions, seven Plenary Lectures, 44 keynote lectures, 220 oral presentations and 354 posters. There were 593 registered participants with 356 being physically present in Athens. The Conference attracted a record number of young scientists with 308 PhD students and 43 post-docs.

A preconference Training Course on Application of Colloids and Interfaces in Foods and Pharmaceutics took place at the venue, with 62 PhD students and postdocs, with 52 being physical participants.

The Organizers and all participants respected the anti-COVID protocols, and as a result not a single case of infection was reported.

Overall, the Conference was a great success, and as Prof. Jacob Klein, our Overbeek gold medal awardee of this year, said: "This was the worldwide first "normal" conference after the pandemic".

The quality of the research presented was outstanding. Novel ideas and concepts were discussed within the colloids community.

Many of the presented works are now regrouped in this special issue of Colloids and Surfaces A: Physicochemical and Engineering Aspects dedicated to the 35th ECIS Conference. More specifically, 35 manuscripts were submitted and 20 of them were accepted and published in this special issue.

For the Local Organizing Committee.

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