



Dear guests,

As a Chairman of the Organizing Committee, I have the significant honour and, of course, a great pleasure, to open the 20th *Anniversary International Symposium “Bioprocess Systems 2007 – BioPS’07”*.

In view of the fact that this is a jubilee edition, let me to say a few words about the foundation of this *International Symposium*. The beginning was set in 1984, when a group of enthusiasts from the Central laboratory of Bioinstrumentation and Automation carried out a seminar for the presentation of their scientific results in the relatively new area of modeling, optimization and control of bioprocess systems. This seminar had been led by prof. Stoyan Tzonkov – the founder and creator of the *International Symposium “Bioprocess Systems”* – a long-year Chairman of the Program and Organizing Committee of the *Symposium*. The first *International School for Young Scientists “Automatization of Biotechnological Processes and Biological Experiments”* was held in October 1984 in town of Varna. Scientists from France, Canada, Russia, Lithuania, Germany responded to the spontaneously arisen idea of organization of an international symposium, at which at every two years to be shared the obtained results in the area of bioprocess engineering. In that way have been laid the bases of one scientific forum, passed through the heaviest years of the transition of our country. During that 20-years of history, in the passed 19 symposiums more than 600 lectures have been presented and a lot of new contacts between colleagues, working in similar scientific fields were established.

The *International Symposium “Bioprocess Systems”* initiated the foundation and development of bioprocess engineering in our country. The first participants of this event have been established as leading scientists in Bulgaria and abroad.

The approved scientific forum for a contribution of scientists with worldwide popularity and young scientists in the area of bioprocess engineering, for a consecutive year will become a scene for an exchange of experience and presentation of the results in this so perspective scientific area.

For us it is of particular importance to organize this event every year. The *Symposium* gives a forum for an exchange of scientific results



and leading of discussions in such an exceptionally huge and attractive scientific area, such as modeling, optimization and control of bioprocess systems, medical and ecological systems, biotechnologies and bioengineering as a whole. That is why the annual performance of this event is significant for participants, as well as for the guest-listeners. The *Symposium* gives an opportunity for new relationships, which could become of exclusive importance for further cooperation.

It is my pleasure to give the floor to the Director of our laboratory prof. Mikhail Matveev to greet the guests of our *Symposium*.

Prof. Mikhail Matveev greeted the guests of the Symposium.

It is my pleasure now to give the floor to one of the founders of this event and creator of the scientific area of ecological engineering in Bulgaria – assoc. prof. Ivan Simeonov from the Institute of Microbiology to greet the guests of our *Symposium*.

Assoc. prof. Ivan Simeonov greeted the guests of the Symposium.

Before to proceed to the real scientific part of our forum, I would like to express my special gratitude to the whole Organizing Committee, first of all to the Honoured Chairman and founder of this *Symposium* – prof. Stoyan Tzonkov, to the members of the Organizing Committee Krassimira Ljakova, Mitko Petrov and Tatjana Ilkova, and especially to the Secretary of the Organizing Committee Olympia Roeva, who is one you know around the preparation and acceptance of the papers.

I wish a great success of the 20th *Anniversary International Symposium “Bioprocess Systems 2007 – BioPS’07”* and a lot of useful discussions!

GOOD LUCK!

*Assoc. prof. Tania Pencheva
Chairman of the Organizing Committee
of International Symposium “Bioprocess Systems”*