EDITORIAL Seventh International Conference "Modern Trends in Science" - FMNS-2017



## 14 - 18.06.2017, Blagoevgrad, BULGARIA

Dear Reader,

This special issue collects selected papers, presented during the Seventh International Conference "Modern Trends in Science" (FMNS-2017), which held from 14<sup>th</sup> till 18<sup>th</sup> June 2017 in Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria. The conference was organized by the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences at South-West University "Neofit Rilski", Blagoevgrad.

The main objective of FMNS-2017 was to provide a platform for researchers, working in different fields of natural sciences, to report their current research achievements, to exchange new ideas and experiences, to create new contacts and to find global partners for future cooperation.

The Conference was organized in seven sections – Chemistry, Ecology and Environmental Protection, Geography, Mathematics, Informatics, Methodology in Education, Physics and Technical Sciences.

More than 140 researchers from Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Greece, Kazakhstan, Poland, Republic of Macedonia, Russia and United Kingdom attended the conference. Four prominent scientists – Acad. Julian Revalski (President of Bulgarian Academy of Sciences), Prof. Armen Sergeev (Vice-President of European Mathematical Society), Prof. John Greenman (University of the West of England, Bristol, UK) and Prof. Erwin Rosenberg (TU-Vienna, Austria), presented attractive plenary lectures, devoted to the interrelations between natural sciences. Most of the reported research during the oral and poster sessions also outlined the interdisciplinarity and multidisciplinarity as major trends of the modern science.

A specialized Workshop "Recent Progress in **Bio-electrochemical** systems", organized bv Innovative Center for Eco Energy Technologies at South-West University "Neofit Rilski" Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria, in collaboration with Institute of Electrochemistry and Energy Systems "Acad. Evgeni Budevski" - Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and Institute of Engineering Chemistry -Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, was also held in the framework of the conference. The Workshop was chaired by Assoc. Prof. Yolina Hubenova from Institute of Electrochemistry and Energy Systems "Acad. Evgeni Budevski" - Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. This satellite event provided opportunity for researchers working in the field of electrochemical systems as fuel cells, biofuel cells, microbial electrolysis cells, enzyme electrodes, etc., to report their achievements in development of these innovative technologies.

A round table discussion on the current progress of the projects "Sediment-based bioelectrochemical systems – self-powered devices for bioremediation and ecological monitoring" (Contract DFNI E02/14/2014) and "Novel fuel cells based on chemical and microbial processes" (Contract DFNI E02/15/2014) took place during the Workshop.

On behalf of the Organizing committee of the Seventh International Conference FMNS-2017 I would like to express our gratitude to the Ministry of Education and Science and the National Science Fund of Bulgaria for the provided financial support.

We gratefully use the chance to disseminate a part of the reported achievements during the conference among the audience of Bulgarian Chemical Communications journal.

> Prof. Mario Mitov, Chairman of the Organizing Committee of FMNS-2017