The Brazilian Meeting on Analytical Chemistry (20th ENQA) celebrated its 20th edition last September 25 to 28th in Bento Gonçalves, Rio Grande do Sul state, Brazil. It was organized by researchers of Federal University of Santa Maria (UFSM) in cooperation with Federal University of Pelotas (UFPel) and Franciscan University (UFN). In parallel to 20th ENQA, the 8th Ibero-American Congress of Analytical Chemistry (CIAQA) was organized in the same period. Since 1982, when the first ENQA was organized, the event has traditionally been held every two years. ENQA returned to Rio Grande do Sul state after 23 years with the previous edition hosted in Santa Maria city, in 1999. That current edition celebrated the 10th ENQA and was also organized by UFSM, with some of the organizers of that edition also in the Organizing Committee of the 20th ENQA. The ENQA is supported by the Analytical Chemistry Division of the Brazilian Society of Chemistry, and the 20th edition was in the Gaucho’s highlands in a pleasant atmosphere of Bento Gonçalves city, which offers many tourist attractions including a variety of gastronomical infrastructure.

ENQA’s main goal was to present and discuss the latest advances in analytical chemistry in Brazil and abroad. In this edition, a plenty of topics was covered including atomic spectrometry, electroanalytical, environmental chemistry, mass spectrometry, sample preparation, spectroanalytical methods, separation methods, bioanalytical, food analysis, instrumentation and automation, chemometrics, speciation analysis and fractionation, fuels and biofuels and miniaturization techniques.

The 20th ENQA – 8th CIAQA had more than 800 participants from virtually all the states of Brazil, as well as more than 20 foreign speakers from 10 countries (Argentina, Canada, Colombia, Czech Republic, France, Portugal, Spain, United Kingdom, USA and Uruguay).
In this edition, 9 short courses and 4 workshops of the Brazilian Institutes of Science and Technology were offered on the first day, followed by 54 sessions with 72 lectures, 54 oral presentations, 3 poster sessions (515 poster presentations) and several social integration activities. The meeting also presented a session of book releases and more 3 workshops: “Present and Future of Analytical Chemistry”, “Women in Analytical Chemistry” and “Ibero-American Congress of Analytical Chemistry (CIAQA) Meeting”, in addition to 2 special sessions of Meet the Editor (foreign and Brazilian publishers).

In the opening ceremony were delivered 7 tributes and a special Medal Carol Collins that was granted to the professor Boaventura F. dos Reis. This medal is the most important tribute of Analytical Chemistry in Brazil and it is sponsored by the Analytical Chemistry Division of the Brazilian Society of Chemistry. More 3 awards were delivered in the closing ceremony to recognize the important contribution of researchers in Brazil, in addition to 16 poster awards.

It is important to mention that 20th ENQA provided a 3-days for exposition of companies working in the analytical chemistry field, allowing a fruitful interaction with the participants that were able to be in touch with the newest instrumental advances and facilities for analytical laboratories. The organizing committee are grateful to all the sponsors and also to the Brazilian Institutes of Science and Technology (INCTBio, INCTAA, INCT-E&A and INCT-DATREM), who contributed to support the invited national and international speakers.

We are thankful to the Brazilian Journal of Analytical Chemistry (BrJAC) that offered a special issue devoted to the 20th ENQA. This special issue will be dedicated to the publication of those data presented in the 20th ENQA and 8th CIAQA (deadline for manuscript submission on February 28th, 2023). For this special issue the Guest Editors, Érico M. M. Flores, Márcia F. Mesko and Renato Zanella, thank all authors for submitting their contributions and all reviewers for sharing their time and expertise to contribute to the quality of the issue dedicated to the 20th ENQA and 8th CIAQA. For this edition, authors must inform in the Cover Letter about the work presented in 20th ENQA and 8th CIAQA.

We also thank the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) that presents a collection of articles showcasing some of the top analytical chemistry research from Brazil and Latin America. This cross-journal collection highlights a broad range of research from the last couple of years. We hope you enjoy reading the articles included in this collection, which will be free to access until 31st December. ENQA – 20th Brazilian Meeting on Analytical Chemistry Collection.

We are also now accepting new submissions to this collection and participating journals include Analyst, Analytical Methods, JAAS, RSC Advances, Environmental Science: Nano, Environmental Science: Processes & Impacts, Environmental Science: Water Research & Technology, Environmental Science: Atmospheres*, and Environmental Science: Advances*. Please mention in the cover letter or via ScholarOne directly that you wish to be considered for the ‘ENQA’ collection and note that all submissions will be subject to initial assessment in the normal way. Submissions should ideally be submitted before March 2023, though submissions received after this date may still be included. If you have recently
published a paper with the RSC and wish for it to be added to the collection retrospectively, please contact analyst-rsc@rsc.org (*Open Access fees are currently being waived).

Finally, we are thankful to the support of organizing and scientific committees, to the overall staff for their support of the Analytical Chemistry Division of the Brazilian Society of Chemistry and for all the participants that contributed to make more one successful edition of ENQA and CIAQA.

The BrJAC "Young Talent in Analytical Chemistry Award 2022" was delivered to Prof. Dr. Bruno C. Janegitz.