Guest Editorial

Ferroelectrics Volumes 414–416 represent the Proceedings of the 10th Russia/CIS/Baltic/Japan Symposium on Ferroelectricity (RCBJSF-10) held in Yokohama, Japan on June 20–24, 2010.

The first RCBJSF symposium was held in Novosibirsk in 1976 under the joint efforts of the honorable Nobel Prize winner Professor Prokhorov (Russia) and Professor Kobayashi (Japan). Upon the birth of this event, the following symposia were continuously held in Kyoto (1980), Novosibirsk (1984), Tsukuba (1988), Moscow (1994), Noda (1998), St. Petersburg (2002), Tsukuba (2006), and Vilnius (2008), providing numerous dynamic discussion and the first-hand updates on the “hottest” aspects on ferroelectricity.

Having extended from the transitional boundaries of RCBJSF, this conference attracted 172 participants from 16 countries, namely 76 from Japan, 42 from RCB, and 54 from others. Also, an outstanding program was achieved by the program committee of RCBJSF-10, which was structured into nine sessions: i) Theory and Modeling, ii) Structural Analysis, iii) Spectroscopes and Optics, iv) Phase transitions, v) Thin Film and Domain Switching, vi) Multi-ferroics, vii) relaxors, viii) Synthesis and Characterization, and ix) Lead-free Materials and Piezoelectric Ceramics. In overall, 4 plenary lectures and 22 invited talks given by the renowned scientists, as well as 44 oral presentations and 148 posters were scheduled. In particular, the plenary lectures highlighting the research areas of strong and emerging interests were conducted by: Professor D. Vanderbilt, “First-principles Theory of Ferroelectrics: Bulk, Defects, and Ultrathin Capacitors”; Professor B. Strukov, “Features of Phase Transitions in Nanostructured Ferroelectric Oxides Revealed from Calorimetric and Thermal Noises Dielectric Data”; Professor S. Kojima, “Micro-Brillouin Scattering of Normal and Relaxor Ferroelectrics; and Professor W. Kleemann, “Multiferroic and Magnetolectric Materials: Novel Development and Future Perspectives”, respectively. 80 papers were selected for the publications in these volumes as the proceedings of RCBJSF-10.

In addition to the program described above, a meeting of the International Advisory Board was also held during the conference. In which, the location for the next symposium in 2012 (RCBJSF-11) was finalized at Jekaterinburg, and the following one in 2014 (RCBJSF-12) at RCB tentatively.

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