



Preface

XV International Symposium on Metastable, Amorphous and Nanostructured Materials

6–10 July 2008, Buenos Aires, Argentina



This special issue comprises the proceedings of the 15th International Symposium on Metastable, Amorphous and Nanostructured Materials (ISMANAM), which was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from the 6 to 10 July 2008.

ISMANAM 2008 had 221 participants from four continents (67% from America, 24.2% from Europe, 7.2% from Asia and 1.6 from Oceania) that have contributed to the symposium with 267 works presented in 14 plenary and semi-plenary talks, 28 keynotes, 40 oral presentations and 185 posters.

ISMANAM is annually organized since the first Symposium held in Grenoble, France in 1994, it was followed by Quebec (1995), Rome (1996), Sitges (1997), Wollongong (1998), Dresden (1999), Oxford (2000), Ann Arbor (2001), Seoul (2002), Foz do Iguaçu (2003), Sendai (2004), Paris (2005), Warsaw (2006) y Corfu (2007) and Buenos Aires (2008).

The scope of the Symposium encompassed metals, ceramics, polymers and composites. Also the form of the investigated items

spanned from nanosized particles, through thin films, and powders to bulk materials, including composites and nanocomposites. Several aspects of the materials science were discussed: modelling, manufacturing, characterisation of structure and properties, performance and applications.

Traditionally, the ISMANAM Steering Committee acknowledged the outstanding achievements of a senior and a junior scientist by granting the awards. The Senior Researcher Award was handed to Prof. Dr. Konrad Samwer from the University of Goettingen, and the Junior Researcher Award went to Dr. Marina Galano from the University of Oxford.

We wish to express our sincere thanks to all who contributed to the success of ISMANAM 2008, the members of the Steering Committee, the members of organizing Committees, the sponsors, the session chairpersons, invited speakers and all the contributing participants. Also, the great efforts of colleagues, students and university employers that have contributed to the organization are specially acknowledged.

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