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Foreword

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FOREWORD

The papers collected in these proceedings were presented on the occasion of the VI UPS Conference, held in Leuven, Belgium from 15 to 19 August 1993, as a successor of the conferences at Mitwitz (1982), Cleveland (1985), Schloss Elmau (1987), Almaden (1989) and Okazaki (1991).

At the conference, a group of about 200 scientists from all over the world discussed a wide variety of topics related to the spectroscopy and reactivity of excited species in the solid state. Single molecule spectroscopy and photo conduction were topics of debate, as was the use of such emerging techniques as scanning probe microscopies. Very lively poster sessions allowed young scientists to discuss their work with world leaders in different fields of interest to the research area.

The conference would have been impossible without the financial support of Cost, Agfa Gevaert, Océ Van der Grint, the European Research Office of the US Army, the Flemish branch of the National Science Foundation and the University.

The conference also would have been impossible without the help of the members of the Organising Committee, and, in particular, co-chair Dr. M. Van der Auweraer, the many efforts of my co-workers and the all-watching eye of the secretary, Ms. Mewis. Their endeavour and enthusiasm, together with the scientific excellence of the participants, have made this conference another success story in the series.

I am sure that the next conference, to be chaired by Dr. Burland and to be held in California in 1995, will continue to be a stimulus in the field, and I wish the next organisers(s) success.

I thank all those who made the chairing of the Leuven conference such a pleasant task.

F.C. DeSchryver

on behalf of
the Organising Committee

August 1994