



Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals Science and Technology. Section A. Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals

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Preface

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PREFACE

The Second Asian Symposium on Organized Molecular Films for Electronics and Photonics, ASOMF'2, held at Peking University, Beijing from November 1 to 4, 1998, was one of a series following on from ASOMF'1 held in Tsukuba, Japan in 1996. The main objective of this symposium was to provide a forum for discussions on the recent progress of organized molecular films research, and to promote collaboration between Asian scientists. The symposium covers the following 11 topics: (1) Langmuir monolayers, LB films fabrication; (2) Self-assembly and self-organized systems; (3) Nanoparticle/matrix composites; (4) Novel techniques for characterization; (5) Scanning probe microscopy/spectroscopy; (6) Electrical, optical, magnetic and spectroscopic properties; (7) Novel nonlinear optical phenomena and applications; (8) Interfacial chemical and electrochemical reactions; (9) Biological and biomimetic aspects of organized molecular films; (10) Unique applications of organized molecular films; (11) Molecular electronics, nanoelectronics and bioelectronic aspects.

The scientific program of the symposium consisted of 18 invited lectures, 30 oral presentations, and 177 poster contributions. Over 250 scientists and engineers from 10 countries attended this symposium, including 243 from Asian countries and regions (150 from China, 50 from Japan, 36 from Korea, 3 from Singapore, 1 from India, 2 from Israel, 1 from Taiwan) and 10 from non-Asian countries (6 from UK, 1 from Germany, 2 from USA, 1 from Canada). After being rigorously reviewed, 127 out of the submitted papers were selected to be published in this special issue of *Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals*.

On behalf of the organizing committee, we would like to express our deep gratitude to all the colleagues who have contributed with enthusiasm to the success of this symposium. The high quality talks of speakers and the active discussions of participants ensured the scientific level of the symposium. We would also like to thank the colleagues from the Center for Nanoscale Science & Technology (CNST) at Peking University, who did all the administrative work throughout the symposium, and special thanks should be given to Dr. Tao Zhu, Ms. Yinchuan Wang, Ms. Jingjian Li, Dr. Zhongyun Wu, Dr. Zhijun Zhang from CNST for their great efforts to arrange the symposium. We are also greatly indebted to the participants who helped the Editors in reviewing the manuscripts, and to Dr. Tao Zhu from CNST, who did all the administrative work involved in the review process.

The symposium was sponsored and supported by Commission on Organized Molecular Films of Chinese Chemical Society, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Peking University, National Natural Science Foundation of China, Ministry of Education of China, Ministry of Science and Technology of China, Institute of Materials Research and Engineering of Singapore, Division of Colloid and Surface Chemistry of Japanese Chemical Society, Division of Molecular Electronics of the Korean Polymer Society, Digital Instruments, Veeco Metrology Group, Molecular Imaging, NIMA Technology Ltd., Renishaw plc, Gordon and Breach Publication Group and the journal *Molecular Crystal and Liquid Crystals*. All of them are greatly appreciated.

ASOMF'3 will be held in the year 2000 at Seoul, Korea under the chairmanship of Professor Haiwon Lee of Hanyang University.

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