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Guest Editor's Preface

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GUEST EDITOR'S PREFACE

Followed by the success on the two previous symposia, the third Asian Symposium on Organized Molecular Films for Electronics and Photonics (ASOMF'3) was held at Hanyang University, Seoul from July 9 to 12, 2000. The first and the second symposia were held at Tsukuba, Japan in 1996 and at Beijing, China in 1998, respectively. Especially, the objectives of this conference, (i) providing a forum for discussions on the recent progress of organic thin films and their applications and (ii) achieving international collaboration among Asian researchers in academia and industry, were expanded and deepened due to the joint of the 11th Molecular Electronics and Devices Symposium. This joint forum covered 10 topics as follows: (1) Langmuir monolayers, LB film fabrication, (2) Self-assembly and self-organized systems, (3) Nanoparticle/matrix composites, (4) Scanning probe microscopy/spectroscopy, (5) Electrical, optical, magnetic and spectroscopic properties, (6) Novel nonlinear optical phenomena and applications, (7) Interfacial chemical and electrochemical reactions, (8) Biological and biomimetic aspects of organized molecular films, (9) Molecular electronics, nano-electronic and bioelectronic aspects, and (10) Nano- and Microfabrication.

The number of the participants was including 226 from Asian countries (20 Chinese, 31 Japanese, and 169 Koreans) and 6 from non-Asian countries (3 Germany, 1 Russia, 2 USA). The scientific program of the symposium consisted of 5 plenary lectures, 25 oral presentations, and 180 poster contributions. After the thorough review, 117 papers were selected for the publication in this special issue of *Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals*.

On behalf of the organizing committee, we would like to express our great gratitude to all the participants/the colleagues who made this symposium successful. The symposium was sponsored by Hanyang University, Korea Science and Engineering Foundation, The Molecular Electronics Division of the Polymer Society of Korea, Samsung Advanced Institute of Technology, LG Electronics Institute of Technology (LG Elite), The National Program for Tera-Level Nanodevices, Sogang University, Pohang

University of Science and Technology, Inje University, and The Study Group for the Properties of Photonic and Microelectronic Polymers by Molecular Design.

ASOMF'4 will be held at Sapporo, Japan in 2002 under the chairmanship of Prof. Masatsugu Shimonura.

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