

Preface

The Spirit of ECASIA

The ECASIA Conference series was born from the recognition by the Dutch SCADEG group and the UKESCA Users Group of the need for a European forum for the applied surface scientist. In late 1982, the structure for the first ECASIA Conference, ECASIA 85, was established. ECASIA Conferences have been held in Europe every 2 years since that time with their proceedings fully published as follows: 1985, Veldhoeven, The Netherlands [*Surf. Interface Anal.* 1986; 9: 1–522], 1987, Stuttgart, Germany [*Surf. Interface Anal.* 1988; 12: 1–578], 1989, Antibes, France [*Surf. Interface Anal.* 1990; 16: 1–584], 1991, Budapest, Hungary [*Surf. Interface Anal.* 1992; 19: 1–646], 1993, Catania, Italy [*Surf. Interface Anal.* 1994; 22: 1–632], 1995, Montreaux, Switzerland [ECASIA 95, Mathieu HJ, Reihl B, Briggs D (eds). Wiley: Chichester, 1995], 1997, Gothenburg, Sweden [ECASIA 97, Olefjord I, Nyborg L, Briggs D (eds). Wiley: Chichester, 1997], 1999, Seville, Spain [*Surf. Interface Anal.* 2000; 30: 1–652], 2001, Avignon, France [*Surf. Interface Anal.* 2002; 34: 1–802], 2003, Berlin, Germany [*Surf. Interface Anal.* this volume].

The venue for the ECASIA Conference is chosen by the ECASIA International Steering Committee (Table 1), taking into consideration details of proposed venues and the need to bring the Conference to surface analysts in the different regions of Europe. In 2003 the choice was for Berlin—it being 16 years since ECASIA had last been in Germany. In 2005 it will be in Vienna, in Austria, with Professor Dr W. Werner as Chairman [<http://www.iap.tuwien.ac.at/ecasia05>].

The Conferences are aimed at, and intended for, those using surface analytical, surface-specific or surface-sensitive techniques for applied purposes. In general, the applications will arise from industrial and technological problems, but the overriding consideration in the material to be presented is that of adding to the body of knowledge about materials and techniques. Whatever the subject of a contribution, scientific knowledge must be advanced.

Table 1. ECASIA International Steering Committee

H. J. Mathieu (Chairman), Lausanne, Switzerland
M. P. Seah (Secretary), Teddington, UK
A. Benninghoven, Munster, Germany
P. Bertrand, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium
H. Fuchs, Munster, Germany
S. Hofmann, Stuttgart, Germany
L. Kover, Debrecen, Hungary
P. Marcus, Paris, France
S. Pignataro, Catania, Italy
J. J. Pireaux, Namur, Belgium
J. M. Sanz, Madrid, Spain
S. Tougaard, Odense, Denmark
Tran Minh Duc, Marseille, France
J. F. Watts, Guildford, UK
A. Zalar, Ljubljana, Slovenia
P. C. Zalm, Eindhoven, The Netherlands

Conference topics cover applications to technological and industrial problems, such as adhesion, biomaterials, catalysis, ceramics, corrosion, environmental and heritage studies, glasses, magnetics, metallurgy, microelectronics, nanomaterials, optoelectronics, polymers, superconductors, thin films, tribology/wear, etc., with changes from time to time, as appropriate. New developments in surface and interface analytical techniques and related micro- and nano-analytical methods are featured, as are found timely. Progress in data analysis, metrology, quantification and standards form an enduring and integral theme. The Conferences are organized with parallel sessions and have an associated instrument exhibition.

H. J. Mathieu
M. P. Seah
 January 2004