

Guest Editorial

The 1st Portuguese Condensed Matter Physics Meeting (PCMPM) was held from 8th to 10th may 2019, in the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Porto, under the sponsoring of the Portuguese Physical Society (SPF). The Organizing Committee involved the members of the Condensed Matter Physics Division of SPF and the Program Committee included members of the Universities of Porto, Minho, Aveiro, Coimbra, Lisboa and Nova de Lisboa, where intense and internationally recognized research on the area is being carrying out.

The central aim behind of this conference was to bring together young and senior researchers in Condensed Matter Physics, in order to share experiences, to spread the latest information on progress in their specialties and related fields, to gain visibility for their research, and to allow young scientists to develop professionally. The meeting aims at constructing a broad space, towards a profound discussion and reflection regarding the past, present and future of this research field in Portugal, and an assessment of its international impact.

One hundred and fifteen attendees from different Portuguese Universities and Polytechnics were fully registered at PCMPM, making this meeting a truly Portuguese initiative. These participants took active part in the sessions and informal discussions that had place along the three days of the meeting. There were eight plenary talks, given by Eduardo V Castro, Michael Belsley, L. Pereira, Rui Travasso, Nuno A M Araújo, Ricardo Ferreira, Susana Cardoso, and João Ventura, forty four oral and forty six poster contributions, covering a wide number of topics ranging from fundamental research to new characterization techniques and device physics, mirroring all research areas in Portugal. It is worth to stress that sixty five MSc and PhD students were registered in this conference.

Complementary to the program of the meeting, a one day satellite “Young Mind Project” Meeting took place on Thursday 9th, fully dedicated to undergraduate physics students coming from all Portuguese Universities. This meeting was introduced by Dr. Roberta Caruso from Naples University and Dr. Teresa Coimbra, from University of Aveiro. They presented the Young Mind initiative to the Physics Students' Nuclei, in order to spread and strength the project in Portugal, enabling a broader participation of our students in the European Physical Society (EPS) activities.

PCMPM is the first of a series of meetings that we aim at organizing every two years. The 2-year cycle makes them very attractive and enables the opportunity to update the actual knowledge, through intensive scientific programs with lectures and contributions delivered by well-known speakers, experienced experimentalists and theoreticians. We believe that the PCMPM will be an excellent opportunity to report innovative ideas and results, allowing interesting and fruitful discussions, and explore new trends in the extended research field of condensed matter physics.

We would like to express our warmest thanks to all the participants who contributed to this publication, as well as to the referees that helped selecting and improving the manuscripts. Our thanks are extended to the Scientific Committee, to the Directory Board of SPF and to the Dean of the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Porto. A special thanks to Fundação Engenheiro António de Almeida, for the financial support of this publication. We hope that these proceedings may be useful not only to researchers directly engaged in the field, but also to the larger community working in condensed matter physics and material science. Finally, we express our gratitude to all the public institutions and companies that, in many ways, contributed to the success of PCMPM.

B. Almeida

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