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Agnieszka Popiołek-Masajada

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Monika Leniec, Wrocław University of Technology (Poland)
Dorota Szczęsna, Wrocław University of Technology (Poland)
Jacek Olszewski, Wrocław University of Technology (Poland)
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Session Chairs

Wacław Urbańczyk, Wrocław University of Technology (Poland)
Krzysztof Abramski, Wrocław University of Technology (Poland)
Jan Peřina, Palacký University Olomouc (Czech Republic)
Tomasz Woliński, Warsaw University of Technology (Poland)
Ján Bartl, Slovak Academy of Sciences (Slovakia)
Zdeněk Hradil, Palacký University Olomouc (Czech Republic)
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Pavel Zemánek, Institute of Scientific Instruments (Czech Republic)
Leszek Jaroszewicz, Military University of Technology, Warsaw (Poland)
Jarmila Müllerová, University of Žilina (Slovakia)
Miloslav Dušek, Palacký University Olomouc (Czech Republic)
Henryk Kasprzak Wrocław University of Technology (Poland)



Family photo of the conference participants in front of the Sana Hotel in Polanica-Zdrój.



Presentations were indeed very interesting.



Discussion about the next Slovak-Czech-Polish Optical Conference in 2010. From the left: Dagmar Senderáková (SL), František Uherek (SL), Wacław Urbańczyk (PL), Jarmila Müllerová (SL), Ivan Glesk (UK), Anton Štrba (SL).



Lunches provided good opportunity to establish and renew personal contacts, first table from the left: Eugeniusz Jagoszewski (PL), Jří Keprt (CZ), and Miroslav Miler (CZ).

Introduction

The 16th Polish-Slovak-Czech Optical Conference on Wave and Quantum Aspects of Contemporary Optics was held September 8–12 2008 in Polanica Zdrój, a small resort located southwest of Poland in the Lower Silesia Region, close to the Polish-Czech border. For over 30 years, the Polish-Slovak-Czech Optical Conference has provided a vibrant forum for reporting the latest advances in research and stimulates an exchange of ideas among the academic and industrial communities of the three organizing countries. This conference series originated in the early 1970s and now takes place every two years, in turn in Poland, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic.

The 16th conference was organized by the Institute of Physics, Wrocław University of Technology, Poland with contributions from SPIE *Europe*, the Photonic Society of Poland, the Optics Division of Polish Physical Society, and the Centre for Advanced Materials and Nanotechnology, Wrocław University of Technology, Poland. We very much appreciate the organizational and financial help provided by the cooperating institutions.

The conference covered all aspects of modern optics, including quantum and nonlinear optics, lasers and their applications, diffractive optics, interferometry, bio-optics, optical waveguides, optical trapping, fiber-optic and integrated sensors, optical measurements and characterization, polarization optics, and photonic devices. Participants had the opportunity to listen to 22 invited lectures covering a broad range of topics. For the first time, five invited lectures were delivered by guests from outside of the three organizing countries, who were: András Dér (Hungary), Torsten Feigl (Germany), Ivan Glesk (UK), Wiesław Królikowski (Australia), and Mario Marconi (USA). It made the conference even more interesting and open, without losing its traditional Slavic character. A special session devoted to XUV optics, with invited presentations reporting on recent advances in the field, was one of the conference highlights.

The event attracted 154 participants, among them 93 from Poland, 43 from the Czech Republic, 13 from Slovakia, and 5 from other countries. During three and a half conference days, 65 regular and 37 poster contributions were presented, in addition to 22 invited lectures. These proceedings contain 7 invited lectures and 70 regular communicates reviewed and approved by the Technical Program Committee.

The 16th Polish-Slovak-Czech Optical Conference could not be so successful without involvement of many people, including members of the Organizing Committee and the Technical Program Committee, invited lecturers, and session chairs. We would like to express our gratitude and appreciation for their contribution. Finally, we would like to wish our colleagues from Slovakia, who are

now responsible for organizing the 17th Slovak-Czech-Polish Optical Conference in 2010, a successful meeting and satisfaction in their future work related to conference preparation.

Wacław Urbańczyk
Anton Štrba
Jan Peřina