

NEWS FROM THE POLISH SYNCHROTRON RADIATION SOCIETY

Almost one year ago we met at the *7th National Symposium of Synchrotron Radiation Users (7th KSUPS)* held in Poznań on 24th – 26th September 2007 and organised by the Polish Synchrotron Radiation Society in co-operation with the Adam Mickiewicz University. The Symposium gathered 73 participants. The programme included 9 invited lectures, 10 oral contributions, and 51 posters.

The lectures touched on many subjects, structural studies of different objects, from single crystals to biological matter, by means of various methods. There were also presentations of the project of the synchrotron light source in Cracow, the POLFEL project to be built in Świerk, and the European X-ray Free Electron Laser in Hamburg.

For me two lectures were of particular interest. In first, Dr Gilski of the Center for Biocrystallographic Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Poznań presented a remote synchrotron data collection from ESRF in Grenoble, France, via internet. On the monitor screen the audience could see a researcher from ESRF staff going to the laboratory in synchrotron center, mounting a sample which has been sent from Poland, and making the synchrotron experiment. After a few minutes results in the form of diffraction patterns and results of the data processing were shown. It was a very exciting experience, indeed.



Figure 1. A visit of the meteorite at the symposium.

(Fot. by W. Paszkowicz)



Figure 2. The excursion of the symposium participants to the Morasko nature reserve.

(Fot. by J. Pelka)



Figure 3. The General Meeting 2007 – Wojciech Wierzchowski takes the floor.

(Fot. by W. Paszkowicz)

The second lecture concerned a meteorite discovered in Morasko near Poznań in XIX century. Prof. Muszyński of the Adam Mickiewicz University described the results of investigations of the meteorite origin and structure, and showed us a part of the biggest one. We could touch (Fig. 1) a visitor from the universe. After the lecture we had an excursion to Morasko (Fig. 2). It was a didactic and pleasant walk.

Selected Symposium presentations will be published as regular papers in a special issue of *Acta Physica Polonica A* (vol. 114 (2008) No 1) prepared by Maciej Kozak and Wojciech Paszkowicz as the guest editors.

The last Annual General Meeting of the Polish Synchrotron Radiation Society was held in Poznań on the 25th of September 2007. The first item of the agenda was connected with the PSRS membership. Three new members were registered. The reports for the period of June 2006 – September 2007 were the next point of the agenda. Krystyna Jabłońska, the President, and Wojciech Kwiatek, the Treasurer, presented the meritorious and financial reports, respectively. Wojciech Wierzchowski, the Head of the Auditing Commission, read out the minutes (Fig. 3). After a discussion, all reports were received with favour by the General Assembly.

Then, the President described the current Polish access to European sources. The Polish membership

(with the annual dues of 1% of the budget and in an advisory capacity) in the European Synchrotron

Radiation Facility in Grenoble is realised due to a special grant coordinated by Prof. Jabłońska. Poland makes efforts to set up a consortium together with Austria, Israel and Portugal, contributing now also 1 % share because a consortium such as this with 4 % fee comes into prominence and it will be a co-owner of the research infra-structure. As well the negotiations on a Polish contribution to the construction and operation of European X-ray Free Electron Laser (XFEL) in Hamburg are also carried on.

The last item of the agenda concerned the 9th *International School and Symposium on Synchrotron Radiation in Natural Science* in hotel “Ameliówka” in Mąchoce Kapitulne near Kielce in June 2008.

From September 2007 till June 2008 two sessions of the Council of the PSRS were held.

The Council fixed attention on the extension of Polish possibilities of modern research and it is why it decided to promote and actively participate in works of the National Centre of Synchrotron Radiation in Cracow as well as to support an idea of the construction of a Polish free electron laser POLFEL. For the latter, owing to efforts of the President of the PSRS, a consortium XFEL-Polska, consisting of 18 Polish institutions, was created for this goal. Referring to the former, recently, on the 8th of April 2008, a bilateral agreement between the Polish Synchrotron Radiation Society and the National Centre of Synchrotron Radiation was signed.

The 8th *National Symposium of Synchrotron Radiation Users* (8th KSUPS) will be held in Cieszyn on 24th – 25th September 2009 and organised by the Polish Synchrotron Radiation Society in co-operation with the University of Silesia.

At present (June 2008), just before the General Meeting, the Polish Synchrotron Radiation Society has 131 members: 1 honorary member, 110 full members, and 20 associate members (among them 10 foreigners).

Danuta Żymierska

/Secretary of the Polish Synchrotron Radiation Society/