

## NEWS FROM THE POLISH SYNCHROTRON RADIATION SOCIETY

The 8<sup>th</sup> National Symposium of Synchrotron Radiation Users (8<sup>th</sup> KSUPS) was held at Podlesice on 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> September 2009. It was organised by the Polish Synchrotron Radiation Society in co-operation with the University of Silesia.

The Symposium gathered 74 participants, among them many students and young scientists. The programme contained 10 plenary lectures, 7 oral contributions, and 42 posters. The meeting was dedicated to young people, that is why the lectures were delivered in Polish, except two ones by lecturers affiliated in the USA, Tomasz Durakiewicz and Lee Chow. During the lectures and oral presentations the room was full, alike during poster sessions the hall of the hotel.

A special panel session concerned the project of a Polish synchrotron and experimental beam lines was carried on by Edward A. Görlich and Krzysztof Tomala.

The Symposium proceedings including 20 selected presentations were published in a regular issue of *Acta*

*Physica Polonica A* (vol. 117 (2010), No 2) prepared by Wojciech Paszkowicz, Marcin Sikora and Wojciech Szuszkiewicz as the guest editors.



Chairman of 8<sup>th</sup> KSUPS, Andrzej Burian, made records of all events.

(Photo: W. Paszkowicz)



Participants of the 8<sup>th</sup> National Symposium of Synchrotron Radiation Users at Podlesice.

In the first row from the left: A. Kisiel (Honorary Member of the PSRS, President of the PSRS in the period of 1991-1999), K. Jabłońska (President since 2005), B. Orłowski (President in the period of 1999-2005), A. Burian (Chairman of the Symposium), M. Walczak.

(Photo: Ł. Hawelek)



*During an oral session.*

*(Photo: W. Paszkowicz)*



*Poster session at the hall of the hotel.*

*(Photo: W. Paszkowicz)*

The last Annual General Meeting of the Polish Synchrotron Radiation Society was held at Podlesice on the 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2009. The first item of the agenda was connected with the membership of the Society. The Secretary, Danuta Żymierska, informed that the six new members were registered and that of long standing member, Jerzy Gronkowski (the University of Warsaw) passed away; thus the total membership reached 146 members: 1 honorary member, 124 full members, and 21 associate members (among them 10 foreigners).

From September 2009 till June 2010, three meetings of the Council of the PSRS were held, for cutting down the expenses, as internet conferences.

The reports for the period of June 2008 – September 2009 were the next point of the agenda. The President, Krystyna Jabłońska, presented the report from the PSRS activity. The Head of the Auditing Commission, Wojciech Wierzchowski, read the financial report prepared by the Treasurer, Wojciech Kwiatek, that was absent, as well as the minutes from the meeting of the Auditing Commission with the conclusion that the Commission approves the financial and activity reports of the Council. After a discussion, all reports were accepted by the General Assembly.

Then, the President presented the Council proposal to start efforts for organisation in Poland in 2015 the international conference on X-Ray Absorption Fine Structure (XAFS16) (about 600 participants are expected). The Council suggests the former capital of Poland, Cracow, as a place of this meeting and Wojciech Kwiatek as the chairman of the Organising Committee. The Assembly authorized the Council for preparing of Polish proposal which should be ready before the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2011 and sent to the International Society of the X-Ray Absorption (see: <http://www.ixasportal.net/ixas/>). An international scientific community will decide on this matter during the XAFS15 in Beijing in 2012.

Next, Maciej Kozak of the Adam Mickiewicz University presented status of arrangements for the 10<sup>th</sup> International School and Symposium on Synchrotron Radiation in Natural Science at Szklarska Poreba in June 2010. Before closing the meeting, the Assembly accepted a project of an information leaflet about the Society prepared and presented by Paweł Piszora as well as a proposal of organising during the 10<sup>th</sup> ISSRNS a photographic competition “Our Beamtime” submitted by Wojciech Paszkowicz.

The last year was very successful for our community. The Polish membership in the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (ESRF) in Grenoble has been continued. A special grant of Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education coordinated by Prof. Jabłońska ensures funds till July 2011.

The PSRS actively participates in two (European and Polish) free electron laser (FEL) projects. In March 2010, the Parliament of Poland ratified the Constitution of the European X-ray Free Electron Laser (X-FEL) project. This opens for Poland the way to participate in the project as a full-rights member country. Prof. Jabłońska has been elected to its Scientific Advisory Committee for the three-year term. She took part in the first meeting of this Committee in Hamburg. The activity concerning the Polish Free Electron Laser (POLFEL) at the Andrzej Sołtan Institute for Nuclear Studies at Świerk is presented separately in this issue.

In my opinion the best news for our Society is that after more than ten years of hard efforts of the Polish synchrotron user community, especially colleagues from Cracow, the project of the Polish Synchrotron becomes reality. On 9<sup>th</sup> April 2010, the Minister of Science and Higher Education, Prof. Barbara Kudrycka, and the Rector of the Jagellonian University, Prof. Karol Musioł, signed the contract for realization of the project entitled “National Centre of Electromagnetic Radiation for research aims (the stage I)”.

All of us congratulate the team of Edward A. Görlich, Krzysztof Królas, and Krzysztof Tomala on having achieved this success.

*Danuta Żymierska /Secretary of the PSRS/*