## Seventh International Conference on Cryocrystals and Quantum Crystals Wroclaw, Poland, July 31st – August 5th, 2008

This issue of the Fizika Nizkikh Temperatur contains the Proceedings of the Seventh International Conference on Cryocrystals and Quantum Crystals (CC-2008), held in Wroclaw, Poland, July 31st to August 5th, 2008.

Since 1995, the conference (CC) has been an important international forum for presenting new results on physics and chemistry of atomic and molecular solids such as rare gas solids, hydrogens, nitrogen, oxygen, methanes, helium isotopes, water ice, etc. The scope of CC was always wide, including, but not limited to, films, nanoscale systems, charged species in cryocrystals, spectroscopy of cryocrystals, ultra-low temperature and high-pressure studies, matrix isolation in cryocrystals, ultrafast dynamics in crystals, order—disorder phenomena, technological applications and instrumentation.

The recent 2008 conference was the continuation of the series which started with meeting in 1995 in Almaty (Alma-Ata), Kazakhstan. The next two conferences took place in Poland, in September 1997 in Polanica-Zdrój and in August 2000 in Szklarska Poreba. Since 2000, the conferences of this series were held regularly every other year. In 2002 the conference was held in Friesing (Germany), in 2004 — in Wroclaw (Poland) and in 2006 in Kharkov (Ukraine).

Similar to the previous conferences located in Poland, W. Trzebiatowski Institute of Low Temperature and Structure Research (of Polish Academy of Sciences, Wroclaw) and the Faculty of Fundamental Problems of Technology (of Wroclaw University of Technology) took responsibility for organizing the Conference.

Previously, the Conference came in tandem with the International Matrix Isolation Conference; this time, however, the conference was a satellite of and preceded the 25th International Conference on Low Temperature Physics, which was held in Amsterdam, thus allowing many participants to attend both conferences.

Almost 90 scientists from 14 countries participated on the Conference, with young scientists and graduate students being strongly represented. The focus of the Conference was on the traditional topics mentioned above.

The scientific program included 18 invited, 17 oral and 41 poster presentations, of which 19 are published in this issue. Not all the presentations made at CC-2008 appear in these Proceedings, since, e.g., they had already been published or submitted for publication elsewhere. All papers are refereed and, if necessary, revised. We are very grateful all referees for their quick and very thoughtful responses.

It is a pleasure to thank all participants for their presentations and for informal discussions which made CC-2008 a success. We would like to offer our thanks to the invited speakers, and to all contributors and participants who have brought and share their knowledge, expertise, ideas and views to make the meeting fruitful and efficient. Many will remember the exceptionally creative and friendly atmosphere of the Conference and events inside and outside the agenda of the Conference (picturesquely situated in the oldest part of Wroclaw Cathedral Island — with beautiful Gothic monuments), including informal meetings and excursions.

We would like to thank all the members of the Program Committee (who are listed below), especially for their efforts in preparation and carrying out the Conference. Special thanks are due to members of the Local Organizing Committee who did their best to make CC-2008 a success.

The crucial role in supporting the Conference was played by Marshal's Office of the Lower Silesia Region in Wroclaw. This support made the conference possible. Acknowledgments are also due to other sponsors: Wroclaw University of Technology, Ministry of Science and Higher Education, International Laboratory of High Magnetic Fields and Low Temperatures in Wroclaw and W. Trzebiatowski Institute of Low Temperature and Structure Research. CC-2008 was for the first time endorsed by IUPAP.

The success of the Conference shows that cryocrystals are firmly established as one of the important events in the schedule of scientific meetings. The next Conference on Cryocrystals is tentatively planned to be held in Chernogolovka, Russia, in 2010.

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