

## Editorial

The Fifth IUMRS International Conference on Advanced Materials was held in Beijing from June 13–18, 1999. Because this meeting was the last IURMS–ICAM meeting to be held in the 20th century, a comprehensive and forward looking agenda was organized in order to reflect the potential of materials science in impacting the developments of a new era. It is therefore of great significance that display materials was included in this meeting.

The Symposium on Display Materials was focused on the fundamentals and future perspectives for materials for information display and covered emissive and non-emissive display materials, inorganic and organic materials, and brought together materials scientists, physicists, chemists, as well as display system designers. The main topics discussed at the conference ranged from the more conventional CRT materials, to high efficiency luminescent materials and phosphors for Field Emitting, Plasma and Inorganic and Organic Electroluminescent Displays. Particular interest was focused on blue emitting inorganic phosphors and light emitting diode materials and stable organic materials. The symposium also addressed many liquid crystal material issues, such as ferro-electric materials and polymer dispersed systems and their application to large area displays as well as TFT addressing, color filters and backlight technologies.

Both the international and Chinese display community enthusiastically endorsed the symposium and over 130

papers were presented at the meeting. Unfortunately, because of limited publishing space, not all of these papers could be included in this special issue. The paper selection for publication was therefore very rigorous and demanding, and we thank every contributor for making this meeting and publication such a success. We also owe great gratitude to the editorial staff of *Displays* for their assistance in preparing this special issue. Please note that a limited number of papers will also be published in the *Journal of Information and Display*.

The meeting also included an active social agenda and we thank the local organizing committee for their strong commitment and many efforts in organizing a very memorable meeting. On behalf of all conference participants, we also wish to thank the citizens of Beijing for their very gracious hospitality.

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