

Preface

At the XAFS11 Conference in Ako, in 2000, Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Laboratory (SSRL) was selected as host and organizer for the 13th International Conference on X-ray Absorption Fine Structure, or XAFS13. With the highly successful 2003 XAFS12 conference in Malmö, Sweden in mind, we initiated the XAFS13 preparations in 2005. The planning and organizational process culminated in meeting colleagues and friends at the Frances C. Arrillaga Alumni Center on Stanford University main campus during the warm and sunny week of July 9-14, 2006, to listen to talks, view posters - and to engage in personal scientific interactions that is one of the most important outcomes of international meetings. This book represents the Proceedings of this conference. It is introduced by a Conference overview of the science and program by Prof. Gordon Brown, Jr. This is followed by the first section of papers, devoted to the opening symposium in the honor of the late Dale Sayers. Thereafter are 10 broadly defined scientific sections of papers that focus on Plenary Talks, Theory & Modeling, Environmental & Earth Science, Biological & Medical, Materials & Magnetism, Catalysis, Nano, Chemical Science, Novel Methods, and Instrumentation, respectively. In all, these Proceedings represent about 60% of the conference presentations. We hope that these Proceedings will be of high value to the growing XAFS community. We believe that they serve as an indicator of present trends and developments, as well as an illustration of the continued extensive impact of XAFS tools and synchrotron sources in many areas of science.

We gratefully acknowledge the support from our main conference sponsors, Stanford University, Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Laboratory, and at a large number of our sister light sources around the world; the program guidance from the International Advisory Committee; the work by the local Program Committee chaired by Prof. Ingolf Lindau; the interactions with the IXS Executive Committee; and the outstanding support from our SSRL administrative staff, named in the Conference overview. We also acknowledge the support of SLAC's InfoMedia Solution's team members Terry Anderson for logo and graphic designs, and Sharon West and Yasuko Weyhrauch for editing and production for this Proceedings and pre-conference publications. Finally – we thank all the participants and authors for an exciting meeting, for their contributions to these proceedings, and for their cooperation during the peer-review and editorial processes.

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