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Mircea Udrea

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Introduction

The international conference INDLAS 2007 held in Bran, Romania is the first edition of an annual series of conferences dedicated to laser applications. The topics of this conference reflect applications in material processing, optoelectronics, biology and medicine, and sensing and metrology. Our event expresses the more and more obvious role of lasers in the progress of modern society. Far from being only a scientific domain, the laser has become a familiar tool in many applications.

INDLAS offers an opportunity to share experiences, discuss the newest results, stimulate interdisciplinary research, and consider the realm of laser applications. Since Romania is a country under continuous and rapid development, a jump to the newest technologies, as laser is, even skipping some steps, seems to be attractive for different institutes and companies all over the world. Another stimulating factor is the participation of Romania in the frame of EU Research and Development programmes.

INDLAS 2007 benefited from the support of several national and international institutions. We thank and SPIE-RO (the Romanian Chapter), the Romanian Academy, the National Institute of Optoelectronics (INOE 2000), the University of Bucharest, and the University Politehnica of Bucharest. And special thanks to the National Institute of Laser, Plasma, and Radiation Physics (NILPRP).

Thanks are due to the co-sponsoring institutions: The Romanian Ministry of Education and Research, Coherent, Inc. (USA), and Ekslpa (Lithuania).

Scientific papers by authors from 7 different countries have been selected for presentation at INDLAS 2007, in plenary lectures, invited lectures, oral presentations, and posters. Some of these papers, reviewed by the international referee board, are published in this SPIE Proceedings volume. We express our gratitude to the referees, to the invited professors, and to the participants for their valuable work.

I would like to express my thanks to the members of the International Scientific Committee, Programme Committees and Organising Committees of INDLAS 2007 for their hard work. A special address and thanks are due to Dr. R. Medianu, the General Director of NILPRP, Dr. A. Petris, Ms. Petronela Doia, and Mrs. Mariana Buzatu, who were the key members of the Organizing Committees. We thank them for their efforts and support of this conference. We acknowledge Mrs. Doina Nicolae and Ms. Camelia Talianu for the design and updating the conference web site. The preparation of the conference programme and of this volume is largely due to the hard work of Ms. Petronela Doia, who deserves our gratitude and the appreciation of our community.

I hope that the participants in INDLAS 2007 have enjoyed the scientific sessions, have reconnected with their friends, and have had the opportunity to start new scientific collaborations.

Since most of the participants have already expressed their wish to participate at INDLAS 2008, I consider our first attempt as a success to be continued in the years to come.

Mircea Udrea

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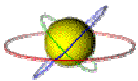
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