

### YUCOMAT 2010 to be held in September

[www.mrs-serbia.org.rs](http://www.mrs-serbia.org.rs)

The Materials Research Society of Serbia will hold its 12th Annual Conference on September 6–10, 2010, at Plaza Hotel, Herceg Novi, Montenegro ([www.hercegnovi.cc](http://www.hercegnovi.cc)).

The Conference will feature five symposia: Advanced Methods in Synthesis and Processing of Materials, Advanced Materials for High-Technology Application, Nanostructured Materials, Composites, and Biomaterials. The format includes invited plenary lectures by the leaders in the field, and oral and poster presentations. The official conference language is English.

The abstract deadline is May 1, 2010. Abstracts should be no longer than 10 lines. The conference program, instructions for manuscript preparation, and information about hotel reservations will be sent to registered participants by July 1, 2010.

The Presidency of MRS-Serbia, at the proposal of the Awards Committee, will award the authors (preferably young members under 35) of the best oral and poster presentation at the conference, and also the authors of highly rated PhD and MSc theses defended between two conferences. The benefits include free registration at the next YUCOMAT Conference.

An exhibition of synthesis and characterization equipment and tutorials on especially interesting topics for young researchers are planned to be held during the Conference. The traditional Cocktail Party on Monday evening and excursions on Wednesday (Dubrovnik, Croatia) and Thursday (Boka Kotorska Bay) afternoons will be organized.

YUCOMAT 2010 Conference information is available on the official MRS-Serbia Web site [www.mrs-serbia.org.rs](http://www.mrs-serbia.org.rs) or from Aleksandra Stojicic, Conference Secretary, [its@itn.sanu.ac.rs](mailto:its@itn.sanu.ac.rs). □

## CONFERENCE REPORTS

### YUCOMAT 2009 Presented Issues from Advanced Materials and Nanotechnologies to Their Most Significant Applications

[www.mrs-serbia.org.rs](http://www.mrs-serbia.org.rs)

The 11th Annual YUCOMAT Conference was held in Herceg Novi, Montenegro, August 31–September 4, 2009. It was organized by the Materials Research Society of Serbia (MRS-Serbia) and the Institute of Technical Sciences of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts (ITS SASA), under the auspices of the Federation of European Materials Societies (FEMS) and endorsed by the Materials Research Society (MRS).

At the Opening Ceremony, Dragan Uskoković, president of MRS-Serbia and director of ITS SASA, gave a welcoming speech to the attendees. Emphasizing the importance of mentoring young researchers, he said, “For, although the scientific excellence of our research methodologies is of crucial importance, it is the passion for science that all of us—experienced mentors and teachers—have the duty to convey to those that follow our steps. It is the love for our science as much as the content of our knowledge that makes us successful in scientific endeavors.” On behalf of the MRS-Serbia Presidency, Slobodan Milonjić, vice president of MRS-Serbia, dedicated this Conference to Uskoković in honor of his 65th birthday. Attendees were also greeted by the officer of FEMS, Jan Kusinski; former president of MRS, Robert Hull; and president-elect of the European Ceramic Society (ECerS), Danilo Suvorov. They emphasized a significant impact and role which the YUCOMAT conferences



Some of the participants of YUCOMAT 2009 Conference.



Poster Sessions were held in late evening hours in a very relaxed atmosphere.



Former President of the Materials Research Society, Robert Hull (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute), greeted the attendees of YUCOMAT 2009.



Masahiro Yoshimura from Tokyo Institute of Technology opened the First Plenary Session at YUCOMAT 2009.

had in bringing together scientists from the region and their colleagues from all over the world. Through 11 conferences, YUCOMAT has grown from a national conference to international, with speakers from 37 countries from all continents.

About 220 participants from around the world gathered for the five one-day symposia dedicated to advanced methods in materials synthesis and processing, advanced materials for high-technology applications, nanostructured materials, composites, and biomaterials. The conference also invited 18 plenary speakers who

covered a broad range of topics (for details, see the conference Web site). The conference also included an exhibit of innovative scientific equipment. The official language of the meeting was English.

Selected manuscripts are scheduled to appear in *Acta Physica Polonica A*, published by the Institute of Physics of the Polish Academy of Sciences, and the *International Journal of Modern Physics B*, published by World Scientific Publishing Co. Pte. Ltd. The *YUCOMAT 2009 Programme and the Book of Abstracts* is available at Web site [www.mrs-serbia.org.rs/images/2009-1.pdf](http://www.mrs-serbia.org.rs/images/2009-1.pdf).

To encourage prospective young scientists, an assigned evaluation Committee selected the authors of the best PhD and MSc theses submitted between the two conferences, and the best oral and poster presentations (see Sidebar).

The next YUCOMAT Conference will also be held in Herceg Novi, September 6–10, 2010 ([www.mrs-serbia.org.rs](http://www.mrs-serbia.org.rs)).

DRAGAN USKOKOVIĆ  
President of MRS-Serbia and  
Director of the Institute of  
Technical Sciences  
of the Serbian Academy of  
Sciences and Arts

### YUCOMAT 2009 Awards

#### Best PhD thesis

**Nadica Abazović** (Inst. of Nuclear Sciences Vinca, Serbia), "Synthesis and Characterization of Nanomaterials Based on Titan (IV) Oxide"

#### Best MSc thesis

**Zoran Stojanović** (Inst. of Technical Sciences of SASA, Serbia), "Hydrothermal Synthesis of Nanostructured Oxide Powders and Their Characterization"

#### Best oral presentations

**Ralph Kraehnert** (Leibniz Inst. for Catalysis at the University of Rostock, Germany), "A Synthesis Toolbox for Well-Defined Catalyst Coatings: Nanoparticles of Noble Metals Supported on Mesoporous Oxide Films"

**Marija Vukomanović** (Inst. of Technical Sciences of SASA, Serbia), "Poly (D,L-Lactide-co-Glycolide)/ Hydroxyapatite/Clindamycin Core-Shell Nanospheres Processed in the Fields of Ultrasound"

#### Best posters

**Agneszka Radziszewska** (AGH University of Science and Technology, Poland), "Nanostructured Thin Films  $\beta$ -Al-Mg Obtained using PLD Technique"

**Rares Stiufiuc** ("Babes-Bolyai" University, Romania), "Atomic Force Microscopy Characterization of Gold Nanocrystals"

**Nikolina Pavlović** (Faculty of Technology, Serbia), "Synthesis of Nanopowders and Bismuth Titanate-Based Ceramic Processing"

### MRS WORKSHOP SERIES

Nanocontacts  
and Nanointerconnects

APRIL 5, 2010  
Moscone West, San Francisco, CA  
[www.mrs.org/nano10](http://www.mrs.org/nano10)

Continued improvements in our ability to synthesize and fabricate nanostructures over the past decades have fueled tremendous growth in the area of nanoscience and nanoengineering. A variety of well developed 'top-down' and 'bottom-up/self-assembly' techniques are now available to researchers to create a wide range of nanoscale materials, with often unique and technologically appealing properties.

This workshop will address both theoretical and experimental approaches to understanding formation, carrier transport, reliability, and applications of metal/semiconductor nanocontacts and nanointerconnects.

**ORGANIZERS**

**A. Alec Talin**, NIST  
**Saif Islam**, University of California–Davis  
**King-Ning Tu**, University of California–Los Angeles

**PLENARY SPEAKER**

**Stan Williams**, HP Labs