



EMS Newsletter 18, February 2007

Dear EMS member,

As always, we would like to start this first Newsletter of 2007 by wishing all our members a healthy and successful year. By the same token, we especially congratulate our French EMS member Prof. Dr. Christian Colliex from the Laboratoire de Physique des Solides of the Université Paris-Sud in Orsay, France, for having been elected our new President of the International Federation of Societies of Microscopy (IFSM), taking office January 1st, 2007. As you all know, Prof. Colliex is an internationally renowned electron microscopist and materials scientist and, most importantly, one of the pioneers of electron energy loss spectroscopy. At this occasion, let us also thank his predecessor, Prof. Dr. David Cockayne for the smooth and productive cooperations EMS had with IFSEM.

For the 38 participants of the EMS sponsored TEM Winter Workshop at EMAT in Antwerp the year took a very busy start. After one week of general introduction, the participants were divided into two groups thereby having a choice to either focus on high resolution imaging or electron spectroscopy. Three more meetings will be co-sponsored by EMS during the first half of 2007: "Focus on Microscopy" in Valencia, Spain (10-13 April), the 14th EBSD Conference and Workshop in New Lanarkshire, Scotland (26-28 March), and SCANDEM 2007 in Espoo, Finland (18-20 June). All these EMS sponsored meetings feature internationally renowned experts in the field who receive part of their financial support by EMS. More substantial support, including five scholarships for young researchers, is provided for the 2007 EMS Extension, the 8th MCM meeting in Prague (17-21 June) that is jointly organized by six countries. This meeting certainly promises to become a very interesting gathering with sessions focusing on a large variety of materials and life sciences issues as well as techniques.

The 2006 EMS Extension was held in Lunteren, The Netherlands. Although attendance was lower than expected, all comments, including those from the commercial exhibitors were very positive regarding the quality of the scientific contributions as well as the pleasant atmosphere. The two EMS-sponsored lectures, the opening and closing lectures of the meeting, were delivered by Michael Rogers from the Graz University of Technology on "The FIB - a versatile tool in Materials and Life Sciences", and by Rik Brydson from the University of Leeds on "The structure and chemistry of nanoparticulates and implications for toxicity (a more detailed report will be published in the 2007 Yearbook).

Following the statutes, the 2006 EMS General Assembly was held at Lunteren: unfortunately, the requested quorum of 50 attendants for making decisions by voting was not reached. As a result, an electronic vote was held a few weeks ago with 156 votes being casted. All questions received about 95% of the votes in favor (with the remaining 5% votes "no opinion") so that the minutes

of the 2006 GA in Davos and all reports presented (Presidential, meetings, budgets) received unanimous approval (details will soon be available on the website www.euremicsoc.org).

The work on our website is paying off: we recently received a mail from Thomson Scientific, saying that EMS is “publishing important, high-quality material on the Web” and that “for this reason, Thomson Scientific has selected *our* web site for inclusion in *Current Web Contents*TM, a selection of scholarly web sites complementing the journal coverage in *Current Contents Connect*[®], the *Web of Science*[®], and other *ISI Web of Knowledge*SM applications.”. This will certainly further increase the visibility and impact of EMS.

In our efforts to support European networks, we like to announce the following training courses organized by the EU Network of Excellence (EU-NOE) for 3D-electron microscopy (3D-EM) (<http://www.3dem-noe-training.org>):

BASIC LEVEL

Cryo-Electron Microscopy in Life Science	2 – 6 Apr
Transmission Electron Microscopy in Life Science	27 – 31 Aug
Electron Tomography	29 Oct – 2 Nov

ADVANCED LEVEL

TOM Software Toolbox: Acquisition and Analysis for Electron Tomography	16 – 20 Apr
CEMOVIS: Cryo-Electron Microscopy of Vitreous Sections	10 – 16 Jun
EMBO Practical Course on Image Processing for Cryo-Electron Microscopy	10 – 20 Sep
Application of Cellular Tomography within Research Projects	upon request

In the Picture

The ESTEEM integrating initiative on advanced electron microscopy in materials science offers a unique chance to consolidate and strengthen the European critical mass by combining the efforts of the leading groups in electron microscopy in both the 'original' and 'new' EC member states. The project runs from July 1, 2006 till June 30, 2011 and combines the strengths of partners at the Universiteit Antwerpen in Belgium, the Université Paris Sud and CEMES Toulouse in France, the University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom, the Technische Universität Dresden and the Max-Planck-Institute Stuttgart in Germany, the Technische Universiteit Delft in The Netherlands, the Universidad de Cadiz in Spain, the Jozef Stefan Institute in Slovenia and the University of St Krakow, Poland. The objectives of the project are organized in (1) Networking activities (NA) aiming to catalyze co-ordination and co-operation between the different users, (2) Transnational activities (TA) which are set up to ensure that researchers from all over Europe have access to the best available infrastructure, and (3) Joint research activities (JRA) meant to enhance the potential and the attractiveness of the transnational activities through scientific enhancement and technological improvements. These JRA focus on the development of microscopy accessories and methods as well as on their application to nanoscience. The titles of the 5 different JRA are: “3D imaging of nanoclusters”, “Electronic structure mapping”, “Mapping (nano)fields”, “Detectors” and “Lab in the microscope”.

More information on this project and how to collaborate can be found at <http://esteem.ua.ac.be> .