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Preface

The 2004 13th Conference on Semiconducting and Insulating Materials (SIMC-XIII) was held at the Beijing Friendship Hotel, the largest garden-style hotel in Asia, from September 20 to September 25, 2004. It is the first time to hold this conference in China. With more than 700 years as China's capital, Beijing presents a vast number of historical remains. The SIMC is a series of biannual conferences initiated in 1980 in Nottingham, UK. SIMC-XIII was sponsored by the IEEE Electron Device Society, mainly supported by the Chinese Academy of Sciences and National Natural Science Foundation of China, and organized by the Institute of Semiconductors, Chinese Academy of Sciences.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide an opportunity for scientists and engineers from both the academic sphere and industry to meet together for an efficient scientific exchange on the topics related to the fundamental materials problems of compound semiconductors, which are widely used for electronic and optoelectronic devices. It has been a forum for many informal and friendly discussions on importance materials issues and device applications. SIMC-XIII gathered about 100 scientists from academic institutions and industry of 16 countries from around the world. An appreciated aspect was the variety of the different backgrounds of the participants, leading to much fruitful exchange and stimulating discussions. The conference was arranged into 12 oral sessions, including 15 invited talks and 39 contributed papers, and 48 poster presentations. Thanks to the International Advisory Committee and the Scientific Program Committee, excellent lectures were presented by distinguished experts: F. D. Auret, Takashi Egawa, Zhaoqiang Fang, L. Fu, Jens Ludwig, Hideo Ohno, Alan Owens, Manfred Ramsteiner, W. Walukiewicz, T. Wojtowicz, Bo Xu, Xiulai Xu, R. Yakimova, Rong Zhang. Following the spirit of previous SIMC conferences, materials growth, characterizations, and device applications related to semiconducting and insulating compound semiconductors, such as GaAs, InP, III-nitrides, non-stoichiometric III-V compound materials, SiC, ZnO, *etc.*, were discussed in the conference. It was seen that the physical phenomena in magnetic III-V semiconductors were becoming increasingly important.

We would like to thank all those involved in the local organizing committee, the International Advisory Committee and the Scientific Program Committee for their hard work in helping with the organization of SIMC-XIII, as well as all participants, speakers, invited speakers, session chairpersons and advertisers for their contribution to the success of the conference. I especially wish to thank Yonghai Chen (conference secretary) and our graduated students for their enthusiasm and outstanding contribution in making this conference a grand success. We want to express our gratitude to all distinguished colleagues for reviewing all papers for publications.

In finish, I want to wish the organizer of SIMC-XIV a lot of success in the organizing of the next conference in the United States of America or other country.

Zhanguo Wang
Chair of SIMC-XIII-2004