

Thirty years of seminars “Development of Materials Science in Research and Education”

Marian Koman¹ and Zdeněk Kožíšek²

¹*Department of Inorganic Chemistry, Slovak University of Technology, Radlinského 9, 812 37 Bratislava, Slovakia*

²*Institute of Physics of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Cukrovarnická 10, 162 00 Praha 6, Czech Republic*

The seminar “Development of Materials Science in Research and Education” started at Gabčíkovo in 1991 by the initiative of the Czech and Slovak Association for Crystal Growth and the Slovak Expert Group of Solid State Chemistry and Physics.

The objective of this meeting is to offer an opportunity to Czech and Slovak teachers and scientists as well as guests from other countries who are working in the field of Materials Science to present their recent results and experience and to exchange new ideas and information.

The scientific session will cover the following topics on materials science:

- Trends in the development of materials research
- Education of materials science at the universitie
- Information about the research programs of individual institutions
- Information about equipment for preparation and characterization of materials
- Results of materials research

A total of 1369 participants (some repeatedly) attended the previous 29 seminars, and 1172 lectures were given. The first four seminars also included poster sections. 6 Schools of Crystal growth (total: 38 lectures, 184 participants) were organized in the period 2000-2010. Proceedings of each seminar have been published, since 1994 in English and with an ISBN number. Papers were published on 2132 pages. The proceedings were edited by a total of 15 editors.

The focus of the papers also changed during the seminars. The main areas are listed above, but some areas have received more attention. The composition of the papers also depended on the focus of the seminar participants. In the beginning, more attention was paid to pedagogical issues and programs. Gradually, attention was focused on new technological processes and our own results. An important part of the papers was the study of the properties of materials, mechanical, electrical, optical, magnetic, etc. These have been investigated on various types of materials, single crystals, sintered materials, ceramic and glass materials, polymers as well as concretes, thin films and, more recently, nanomaterials.

During these thirty years, generations of scientists and educators - participants in seminars - have also exchanged, and it is gratifying that the young next generation is also involved in the development of materials science and the study of new materials.

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