II WORKSHOP ON MOLECULAR PHYSICS AND SPECTROSCOPY - II WMPS

Foreword

This special issue of the Brazilian Journal of Physics contains the proceedings of the II Workshop on Molecular Physics and Spectroscopy - II WMPS (II Workshop em Física Molecular e Espectroscopia – II WFME), which was held in Niterói, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from November 30th to December 2nd, 2004. The II WMPS consisted of twelve plenary sessions, twelve short oral talks and 30 posters. The papers published in this issue were revised and refereed according to the usual standards of the Braz. J. Phys.

The first WMPS was organized by Professors C. E. Fellows, from UFF, Niterói, F. V. Prudente, from UFBA, Salvador, and J. D. M. Vianna, from UFBA, Salvador, and UnB, Brasília. During the national meeting on Condensed Matter Physics in Caxambu, Minas Gerais, in 2003, these colleagues presented an evaluation of the thematic meetings in the area, and pointed out the need to create a new forum in which students, theoretical and experimental researchers in Atomic, Molecular, Chemical Physics, and Spectroscopy, could meet in a restricted but relaxed environment in order to present their results (complete and in progress) and discuss their research work. This forum would open an opportunity for contacts, exchanging ideas, and for the planning of future collaborations.

The first and second workshops in Molecular Physics and Spectroscopy were held in Niterói, Rio de Janeiro, at the Institute of Physics of the Universidade Federal Fluminense (UFF), in November 2003 and 2004, respectively. They included about 60 participants, with the same format proposed by the organizers. This series of meetings continued in November 2005, in Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais, at the Department of Physics of the Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (UFMG), which indicates the support of the community in this area in Brazil. In this special issue of the Braz. J. Phys., we register a sample of the results presented at the II WMPS.

We owe many thanks to all of those who contributed to the success of this workshop, the chairpersons, the plenary and oral talk speakers, the participants, and the institutions that provided the financial support (CNPq, FAPERJ, Fundação Euclides da Cunha - UFF). Finally, we would like to express our gratitude to the Sociedade Brasileira de Física, and especially to Professor S. R. Salinas, editor of the Braz. J. Phys., for accepting the publication of these proceedings.

The National Committee of the II WMPS was formed by Professors C. E. Fellows (Chairman), E. di Mauro, E. Hollauer, F.V. Prudente, J. D. M. Vianna, and M. L. Rocco.

São Paulo, November 2005

José David Mangueira Vianna Guest Editor