

Roberto R. Koropecski ¹

Invited Editorialist

¹Physics Coastline Institute, Guemes 3450, S3000GLN, Santa Fe, Argentina
e-mail: rkoropecski@gmail.com

The Symposium MATERIA was created by a group of Latin-American researchers who are also responsible for the journal "MATERIA", and for the "Itinerant School of Materials". It was created as a forum to bring together Latin American experts in materials science.

The first edition of the Symposium took place in Valparaiso, Chile, in 1995. Since that time it was organized in different Latin American countries like Argentina, Uruguay, Venezuela, Peru, Mexico and Brazil.

From the beginning, the Symposium MATERIA has covered diverse aspects concerning Materials Science research, from methods of preparation to characterization techniques and applications. However, the broad spectrum of nanomaterials applications and the outstanding amount of research being done in the 'nano' field have pushed the Symposium's 2014 edition to be focused solely on the topic of nanostructured materials.

In its XIII version, the Symposium MATERIA will take place again in Argentina, at Santa Fe city. During this meeting the main issue will be about nanostructured materials. The symposium will include a School about nanostructured porous materials.

The Symposium will be part a group of events addressing the whole spectrum of subjects related to Materials Science. This group of events includes the Annual Meeting of the Argentinean and Chilean Associations of Materials (SAM- CONAMET), and the IBEROMAT Annual Meeting in its thirteenth edition, that gathers Ibero American scientists of the area of Materials Science. Therefore, the tripartite event will allow for an extensive update regarding the ultimate advances and trends in the field of Materials Science, gathering engineers, chemists, physicists and researchers in general from Latin America and Ibero America.

These events (www.unl.edu.ar/materiales2014) will take place in October 18th-24th, 2014, in coincidence with the 95th anniversary of the creation of the *Universidad Nacional del Litoral*, one of whose newly established careers is Materials Engineering.

The realization of the School aims to provide young researchers both basic training and information about the state of the art in the field of nanostructured porous materials. To achieve this goal, the invited lecturers are international scientists of excellence in the area of nanostructured porous materials. The lectures will deal with preparation of materials, porosity models, and characterization of porous systems. They will also address issues related to many of the applications of these materials. The organizers hope in this way to generate a synergistic environment promoting the creation of a Latin American Network sustained by young researchers specialized in porous materials and related topics.

The Symposium MATERIA, along with the SAM-CONAMET and IBEROMAT meetings will constitute an excellent environment to promote the interaction among scientists from different areas of the Materials Science. Among with the School, these activities will put in contact students and young researchers with the most prominent researchers in the area.