

Preface

This special issue is a compilation of the papers selected from those presented at the International Conference on Frontiers in Materials Science & Technology (FMST2008), held on March 26-28, 2008 at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT), Brisbane, Australia. The conference was aimed at providing a forum for materials scientists to discuss the latest scientific concepts and technological developments in the processing, characterization, testing, mechanics, modeling and applications of a broad range of advanced materials. It also intends to explore new possibilities to strengthen existing collaborations between Australia and other countries in materials science and technology.

This special issue was prepared from camera-ready manuscripts by the authors, and reviewed by experts in the relevant technical fields. The contributors are from Denmark, Germany, UK, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Japan, the People's Republic of China, Singapore, Taiwan, USA, New Zealand and Australia, presenting a range of topics, including nanomaterials, thin films and coatings, metals and alloys, composite materials, materials processing and characterization, biomaterials and biomechanics, and computational materials science and simulation.

The organizing committee would like to thank all speakers, authors and delegates for their efforts and support. Special thanks are due to the referees for their professionalism, time and efforts in reviewing those papers. Thanks are also due to the Australian Research Network for Advanced Materials for its financial sponsorship and the University of Sydney and the Queensland University of Technology, in particular the Faculty of Built Environment and Engineering and the Continuing Professional Education section of QUT for their support.

Please enjoy the conference and your stay in Brisbane.

John Bell

On behalf of the organizing committee