

## Preface

The 3<sup>rd</sup> international conference “Fractography of Advanced Ceramics” was held at the ACADEMIA Congress Center, Stara Lesna, Slovakia on September 7-10, 2008.

The aim of the conference was to contribute to the improvement of mechanical properties, reliability, and lifetime of structural, functional and bio-ceramics by means of focused discussions and exchange of the current status of knowledge in damage mechanisms and fracture processes in advanced ceramics.

The program of the conference included four keynote lectures, seven invited lectures, 29 oral presentations and 47 poster contributions. The contributions were related to fracture and fractography of structural and functional ceramics, damage processes, fracture of fibre reinforced, porous, and layered composites, nanoceramics and dental ceramics, indentation, wear and other damage mechanisms as well as to the relationships between microstructure and mechanical properties of monolithic, composite and nano-ceramic materials.

The Organization Committee would like to acknowledge the work of the International Advisory Board for their help to organize the meeting, the authors for their excellent presentations and papers and the referees for their contribution in improving the quality of the papers. We would like to thank the American Ceramics Society, European Ceramics Society and European Structural Integrity for the support of the Conference.

The next conference on “Fractography of Advanced Ceramics” will take place in Stara Lesna in 2012. We are looking forward to meeting you in High Tatras!

Košice, January 2009

Jan Dusza, Robert Danzer, Roger Morrell and George D. Quinn  
co-chairmen of the Conference