

Preface

The Seventh International Symposium on Functionally Graded Materials (FGM2002) was held from October 15 to 18 in Beijing, China. FGM2002 was sponsored by the Chinese Ceramic Society and co-sponsored by the National Natural Science Foundation of China, organized by Tsinghua University, Wuhan University of Technology and Shanghai Institute of Ceramics.

The Symposium successfully promoted interactions among scientists, engineers, technicians and students engaged in functionally graded materials research, development and production and all others and provided a forum for the presentation, discussion and review of the latest advances in the field of the science and technology of FGMs. The success of the Symposium is manifested by the international participation of about 160 participants from 26 countries and regions with 14 invited lectures, 101 oral presentations and 76 posters. The Proceedings includes the 161 written version of these presentations.

The Editors would like to express their sincere gratitude to many individuals who contributed to the planning and execution of the Seventh International Symposium on FGMs, in particular to members of the International Advisory Committee, and the Organizing Committee. We would like to thank all colleagues who have devoted much time and effort to organize this meeting. Particular thanks to Prof. M. Koizumi, Prof. Y. Miyamoto, Dr. M. Niino, and Prof. T. Hirai for great contribution to this symposium as the members of international advisory committee for FGMs. We also express deepest gratitude to Prof. Gong and others for their hardworking as the meeting secretariat. Special thanks should also go to a hard-working and competent team of people who worked efficiently behind the scene that made the Symposium smooth-going and meeting with the special requests of a number of participants at times of needs. We are sorry that the numerous individuals who contributed to the success of the Conference cannot all be listed here.

Finally, our sincere thanks go to all those who have made the publication of this volume possible with their cooperation and efforts. Those are the authors, referees, and the members of FGM2002's committees and the publisher.

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