FOREWORD

This special issue of Materials Science Forum is dedicated 'in memorium' to Dr. Lucio Salgado. It contains a collection of papers presented at the following important events organized by 'Metallum Events' under the leadership of Dr. Lucio Salgado.

PTECH 2011

Francisco Ambrozio Filho

Lucio Salgado

The Eighth International Latin American Conference on Powder Technology was held in Florianópolis, Brazil, from 6-9 November 2011. This Conference was coordinated by an International Committee and it provided a forum for the presentation of the latest advances in all areas related to particulate materials. A large number of well-known scientists and engineers from many countries attended this Conference to present the latest developments in aspects related to the manufacture and characterization of metallic, inter-metallic, ceramic and composite materials. The presentations were made at Technical Sessions, either orally or in the form of posters. All abstracts were reviewed by a Technical Program Committee and the best papers are compiled in this issue.

56 CBC

Samuel M. Toffoli

The Brazilian Ceramics Congress (Congresso Brasileiro de Cerâmica-CBC) was held in Curitiba-PR from 3-6 June 2012, along with the 1st Latin American Ceramics Congress and the IX Brazilian Symposium on Glass and Related Materials. This event enabled interaction among diverse sectors (Industries, Technical Schools, Universities, Research Institutes and Suppliers of Raw Materials and Equipment) contributing thus towards the enhancement of 'Brazilian Ceramics'. This event, CBC, traditionally has a broad base where topics of interest in diverse ceramic segments (Red Ceramic, Ceramic Coatings, Refractories, Bioceramics, Technical Ceramic and Nanotechnology) are discussed and the themes in this congress included Energy, Environment, Mineral Resources, Technological Innovation, Quality, Human Resources and others.

VI TTT

Francisco Ambrozio Filho Jorge Kolososki Lucio Salgado

The VI Brazilian Conference on Heat Treatment Themes (Temas de Tratamento Térmico-TTT) was held at Atibaia, SP, from 17-20 June 2012. This Conference provided a venue for the discussion of recent developments in this area and the global market, as well as the dissemination of new products, processes and technologies related to heat treatment. The main objective of this conference was to promote closer contact between professionals involved in heat treatment activities, quality control, product engineering and after sales. The participants were from manufacturers of equipment and supplies, research institutes, educational institutions, users of products and services for heat treatment in industries like automobile, mechanical, steel, electronics, appliances, petrochemical industries, etc.

VII COLAOB

Clodomiro Alves Junior

The Latin American Congress on Artificial Organs and Biomaterials (COLAOB – Congresso Latino-Americano de Orgãos Artificiais e Biomateriais) is a consolidated event and a major one in this field in Latin America. Its success was due to the multi and trans disciplinary environment that helped guide discussions at the interface of healthcare and different engineering fields, making it a fertile environment for new researches and collaborations. The papers published in this edition of MSF were presented in Natal, RN, from 22-25 August 2012.

IPMM

Jacopo Seccatore

Giorgio Francesco Cesare de Tomi

The 7th International Conference on Intelligent Processing and Manufacturing of Materials (IPMM) took place in Foz de Iguaçu, PR, Brazil, during September $2^{nd} - 3^{th}$, 2012. The main theme of this conference was: Sustainable Intelligent Approaches to Mining, Materials and Energy Resources.

EBRATS

Wilma Ayako T. dos Santos

Douglas Fortunato de Souza

The Brazilian Meeting and Exhibition on Surface Treatments (Encontro e Exposição Brasileira de Tratamentos de Superfície- EBRATS) took place from 11-13 April, 2012 at São Paulo –SP. It was the biggest Latin American Forum for the dissemination of processes, equipment, products and services related to Surface Treatments. EBRATS is held once every three years, and this meeting counted on the presence of national and foreign companies, renowned speakers and recognized authors of scientific, technological and innovative papers.