

## Regional Correspondents

### *Australia*

Tony Raftery, Dept. of Physics,  
Queensland Institute of Technology,  
G.P.O. Box 2434, Brisbane, Queensland 4001, Australia

### *Japan*

Hideo Toraya, Ceramics Research Laboratory,  
Nagoya Institute of Technology,  
Asahigaoka, Tajimi 507 Japan

### *Eastern Europe*

Jaroslav Fiala, Central Research Inst.,  
ŠKODA, 31600 Plzeň, The Czech Republic

### *Western Europe*

Norberto Masciocchi  
Dipartimento di Chimica Strutturale e Stereochimica Inorganica  
Universita' di Milano  
20133 Milano, Italy

---

## Calendar of Meetings

Donald Petersen  
Greenleaf Associates  
6210 Siebert Street  
Midland, MI 48640-2724

### 15–17 December 1997

**Conference on Scientific and Technical Data Exchange and Integration.** Bethesda, Maryland, USA. The exchange of scientific and technical data among different computing environments and across diverse disciplines presents major problems that hinder full exploitation of computer-based searching, existing databases, the Internet, and new computer technology. The U.S. National Committee for CODATA is sponsoring the first major interdisciplinary conference on this subject. Contributed papers and demonstrations are included. [Contact: Paul F. Uhlir, U.S. National Committee for CODATA, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20418, USA. Tel: 1 (202) 334-2421; Fax: 1 (202) 334 1684; E-mail: codataco@nas.edu].

### 17–19 December 1997

**CMMP97 Condensed Matter and Materials Conference.** Exeter, England, UK. See the following related meeting. [Contact: CMMP97, Conference Department, Institute of Physics, 76 Portland Place, London W1N 4AA, UK. Tel: 44 (171) 470 4800; E-mail: cmmp@iop.org; Info: <http://iop.org/iop/confs/cmmp>].

### 17–19 December 1997

**British Crystallographic Association Physical Crystallography Group Winter Meeting.** Exeter, England, UK. Held in conjunction with the meeting above. [Contact: Dr. Malcolm McMahon, Daresbury Laboratory, Daresbury, Warrington WA4 4AD, UK. Tel: 44 (1925) 603 639; Fax: 44 (1925) 603 124; E-mail: m.i.mcmahon@ed.ac.uk; Info: <http://cryst.bbk.ac.uk/BCA/PCG/Dec97.html>].

### 24–27 February 1998

**Réunion Annuelle de Association Française de Cristallographie.** Orleans, France [Contact: Dr. Bernard Capelle, Sec-

retary AFC, Université P. M. Curie, Case 115, 75252 Paris Cedex 5, France. Tel: 33 (1) 4427 5217; Fax: 33 (1) 4427 3785; E-mail: [capelle@lmcp.jussieu.fr](mailto:capelle@lmcp.jussieu.fr); Info: <http://www.lmcp.jussieu.fr/sincris.fr/echange/france/afc>].

### 2–5 March 1998

**Sechste Jahrestagung der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Kristallographie (DGK).** Karlsruhe, Germany. See the following related meeting. [Contact: Dr. Kurt Hümmer, Institut für Kristallographie, Universität Karlsruhe (TH), Postfach 6980, 76128 Karlsruhe, Germany. Tel: 49 (721) 608 3320; Fax: 49 (721) 697 720; E-mail: [dgk98@phys.uni-karlsruhe.de](mailto:dgk98@phys.uni-karlsruhe.de); Info: <http://www-tfp.physik.uni-karlsruhe.de/~kris/dgk98.html>].

### 4–6 March 1998

**Jahrestagung der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Kristallwachstum und Kristallzüchtung (DGKK).** Karlsruhe, Germany. Held in conjunction with the meeting above. [Contact: Dr. German Müller-Vogt, Kristall-und Materiallabor, Universität Karlsruhe (TH), Postfach 6980, 76128 Karlsruhe, Germany. Tel: 49 (721) 608 3470; Fax: 49 (721) 697 123; E-mail: [muevo@fphws01.physik.uni-karlsruhe.de](mailto:muevo@fphws01.physik.uni-karlsruhe.de)].

### 16–20 March 1998

**International Centre for Diffraction Data, Spring Meeting.** Newtown Square, Pennsylvania, USA. [Contact: Linda Shertz, International Centre for Diffraction Data, 12 Campus Boulevard, Newtown Square, PA 19073-3273, USA. Tel: 1 (610) 325 9814; Fax: 1 (610) 325 9823; E-mail: [shertz@ICDD.com](mailto:shertz@ICDD.com); Info: <http://www.icdd.com>].

### 5–8 April 1998

**British Crystallographic Association Annual Spring Meeting.** St. Andrews, Scotland, UK. [Contact: Dr. Philip Lightfoot, School of Chemistry, University of St. Andrews,

Purdie Building, St. Andrews, Fife KY16 9ST, UK. Tel: 44 (1334) 463 841; Fax: 44 (1334) 463 808; E-mail: pl@st-and.ac.uk; Info: <http://speedy.st-and.ac.uk/~naismith/bca.html>].

### 13–17 April 1998

**Materials Research Society Spring Meeting. Symposium V: Application of Synchrotron Radiation Techniques to Materials Science.** San Francisco, California, USA. [Contact: S. Mini, Department of Physics, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115, USA. E-mail: mini@anl.gov].

### 26 April–1 May 1998

**Nonstoichiometric Ceramics and Intermetallics.** Kona, Hawaii, USA. [Contact: Engineering Foundation, 345 East 47th Street, Suite 303, New York, NY 10017-2375, USA. E-mail: engfnd@aol.com].

### 27 April–1 May 1998

**American Vacuum Society: 25th International Conference on Metallurgical Coatings and Thin Films.** San Diego, California, USA. [Contact: Bob Finnegan, American Institute of Physics. Tel: 1 (516) 576-2430; Fax: 1 (516) 576-2481; E-mail: finnegan@aip.org].

### 3–6 May 1998

**100th Annual Meeting American Ceramic Society.** Cincinnati, Ohio, USA. [Contact: ACS Customer Service Department, Post Office Box 6136, Westerville, OH 43098-6136, USA. Fax: 1 (614) 899 6109; E-mail: customersrvc@acers.org].

### 24–29 May 1998

**First Russian Crystal Chemistry Conference.** Chernogolovka (near Moscow), Russia. Conference languages Russian and English, with simultaneous translation of Russian to English. [Contact: A. N. Utenyshev, Institute of Chemical Physics at Chernogolovka, Russian Academy of Science, 142432 Chernogolovka, Moscow Region, Russia. Fax: 7 (096) 515 3588; E-mail: atom@kon.icp.ac.ru].

### 25–27 May 1998

**ISPAC-11 Eleventh International Symposium on Polymer Analysis and Characterization.** Santa Margherita Ligure (near Genoa), Italy. [Contact: Prof. Oscar Chiantore, Department of Chemistry IPM, University of Torino, Via Giuria 7, 101025 Torino, Italy. Tel: 39 (11) 670 7558; Fax: 39 (11) 670 7855; E-mail: chiantore@ch.unito.it; Info: <http://www.chem.cmu.edu/ispac>].

### 26–29 May 1998

**High Temperature Structural Silicides.** Cape Cod, Massachusetts, USA. [Contact: Engineering Foundation, 345 East 45th Street, Suite 303, New York, NY 10017-2375, USA. E-mail: engfnd@aol.com].

### 26–29 May 1998

**Seventh European Conference on Non-destructive Testing.** Copenhagen, Denmark. [Contact: Bjarne Larsen, 7 CNDT, Park Allé 345, DK-2056 Brøndby, Denmark. Fax: 45 ( ) 4396 2636].

### June 1998

**Australian Clay Minerals Society Conference.** Brisbane, Australia. To be held on the campus of the Queensland University of Technology. [Info: <http://www.sci.qut.edu.au/physci>].

### 6–10 June 1998

**Clay Minerals Society Meeting.** Cleveland, Ohio, USA. Includes special symposia, a short course on the molecular modeling of clays, and field trips. [Contact: Prof. Sam Savin, Department of Geological Sciences, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH 44106-7216, USA. Tel: 1 (216) 368 6592; E-mail: sms7@po.cwru.edu].

### 14–19 June 1998

**CIMTEC-98 World Ceramics Conference and Forum on New Materials.** Firenze, Italy. [Contact: CIMTEC-98, Post Office Box 174, 48018 Faenza, Italy. Fax: 39 (546) 664 138; Info: <http://www.dinamica.it/cimtec98>].

### 29 June–1 July 1998

**16th Biennial Conference of the Australian Clay Minerals Society.** Brisbane, Australia. To be held on the Gardens Point campus of the Queensland University of Technology. Includes a field trip on the second day, and a post-conference field trip looking at the clay mineral regions in southeast Queensland. [Contact: 16ACMS Secretariat, Centre for I&D Chemistry, Queensland University of Technology, GPO Box 2434, Brisbane, Queensland 4001, Australia. E-mail: r.frost@qut.edu.au; Info: <http://www.sci.qut.edu.au/physci/conference/ACMS>].

### 7–9 July 1998

**MICRO 98 Royal Microscopy Society Conference and Exhibition.** London, England, UK. [Contact: Royal Microscopy Society, 37/38 St. Clements, Oxford OX4 1AJ, UK. Tel: 44 (1865) 248 768; Fax: 44 (1865) 791 237; E-mail: meetings@rms.org.uk].

### 19–24 July 1998

**ACA'98 American Crystallographic Association Annual Meeting.** Washington, DC, USA. [Contact: T. A. Vanderah, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Ceramics Division, Building 223 Room A256, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, USA. Tel: 1 (301) 975 5785; Fax: 1 (301) 990 8729; E-mail: terrell@credit.nist.gov or V. L. Karen, NIST, Materials Science and Engineering Laboratory, Materials Building Room, A215, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, USA. Tel: 1 (301) 975 6255; E-mail: karen@tiber.nist.gov; Info: <http://www.hwi.buffalo.edu/aca>].

### 26–31 July 1998

**Twelfth International Conference on Crystal Growth, in conjunction with the Tenth International Conference on Vapor Growth and Epitaxy.** Jerusalem, Israel. [Contact: ICCG 12, c/o International Travel & Congresses, Ltd., 9 Rothschild Boulevard, Post Office Box 29313, Tel Aviv 61292, Israel. Tel: 972 (3) 510 2538; Fax: 972 (3) 516 0604; E-mail: 100264.2432@CompuServe.com; Info: <http://www.technion.ac.il/~iccg12>].

**3–7 August 1998**

**47th Annual Denver X-ray Conference.** Colorado Springs, Colorado, USA. [Contact: Linda Shertz, International Centre for Diffraction Data, 12 Campus Boulevard, Newtown Square, PA 19073-3273, USA. Tel: 1 (610) 325 9814; Fax: 1 (610) 325 9823; E-mail: shertz@ICDD.com; Info: <http://www.dxcicdd.com>].

**3–7 August 1998**

**International Centre for Diffraction Data, Fall Technical Meeting.** Colorado Springs, Colorado, USA. Held concurrently with the 47th Annual Denver X-ray Conference. [Contact: see above; Info: <http://www.icdd.com>].

**10–14 August 1998**

**IMA'98 17th General Meeting of the International Mineralogical Association.** Toronto, Ontario, Canada. The meeting will be centered on extensive scientific sessions, preceded and followed by field trips across Canada and the United States including important mineral locations, ore deposits, sites of impact craters, and classic petrologic locations. [Contact: Dr. Eva Schandl, Department of Geology, University of Toronto, Earth Sciences Centre, 22 Russell Street, Toronto, ON, Canada M5S 3B1. Tel: 1 (416) 978 7084; Fax: 1 (416) 978 3938; E-mail: ima98@quartz.geology.utoronto.ca; Info: <http://www.geology.utoronto.ca/IMA98>].

**16–20 August 1998**

**ECM-18 18th European Crystallographic Meeting.** Praha, Czech Republic. The conference language is English. [Contact: Radomir Kuzel, Conference Secretariat, Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, Charles University, Ke Karlovu 5, 121 16 Praha 2, Czech Republic. Tel: 42 (2) 2491 5014 x394; Fax: 42 (2) 2491 1061; E-mail: kuzel@karlov.mff.cuni.cz; Info: <http://krystal.karlov.mff.cuni.cz/ecm/ecm.htm> or Jindrich Hasek, Conference Chairman, Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Heyrovskeho nam. 2, 162 06 Praha 6, Czech Republic. Tel: 42 (2) 360 341 x390; Fax: 42 (2) 367 981; E-mail: hasek@imc.cas.cz; Info: <http://www-xray.fzu.cz/ecm/ecm.htm>].

**21–22 August 1998**

**Can Crystal Structures Be Predicted?** Dresden, Germany. An ECM-18 satellite meeting, held under the aegis of the Deutsche Akademie der Naturforscher Leopoldina. The conference language is English. Invited lectures and discussion. [Contact: Dr. Axel Nelles, Deutsche Akademie der Naturforscher Leopoldina, Postfach 11 05 43, D-06019 Halle (Saale), Germany. Tel: 49 (345) 202 5014; Fax: 49 (345) 202 1727; E-mail: nelles@Leopoldina.uni-halle.de].

**22–25 August 1998**

**EPDIC-6 Sixth European Powder Diffraction Conference.** Budapest, Hungary. [Contact: Prof. Tamás Ungár, Department of General Physics, Eötvös Loránd University, Múzeum krt 6–8, H-1008 Budapest, Hungary. Tel: 36 (1) 266 9833; Fax: 36 (1) 266 2618; E-mail:

ungar@ludens.elte.hu; or epdic6@power.szfi.kfki.hu; Info: <http://www.kfki.hu/~epdic6/index.html>].

**9–11 September 1998**

**X-TOP 98 Fourth European Conference on High Resolution Diffraction and Topography.** Durham, England, UK. [Contact: Prof. B. Tanner, Department of Physics, University of Durham, South Road, Durham DH1 3LE, UK. Fax: 44 (191) 374 2111; E-mail: physics.chair@durham.ac.uk].

**11–16 October 1998**

**25th Annual Conference of the Federation of Analytical Chemistry and Spectroscopy Societies.** Austin, Texas, USA. [Contact: FACSS, 1201 Don Diego Avenue, Santa Fe, NM 87505, USA. Info: <http://facss.org/info.html>].

**13–15 October 1998**

**AsCA'98 Third Conference of the Asian Crystallographic Association.** Bangi, Selangor, Malaysia. [Contact: Shih-Lin Chang, Physics Department, National Tsing Hua University, Hsinchu, Taiwan 300. Fax: 886 (3) 572 3052; E-mail: slchang@alpha1.srrc.gov.tw; Info: <http://gandalf.otago.ac.nz:800/rweavers/asca98.htm>].

**25–30 October 1998**

**Rare Earths 98.** Fremantle (near Perth), Australia. [Contact: Erica Jago, Materials Institute of Western Australia, 133 Salvado Road, Wembley, WA 6014, Australia. Tel: 61 (9) 387 9590; Fax: 61 (9) 383 9639; E-mail: re98@miwa.org.au; Info: <http://www.miwa.org.au/IREC98>].

**30 November–4 December 1998**

**Fall Meeting of the Materials Research Society.** Boston, Massachusetts, USA. [Contact: Materials Research Society, 9800 McKnight Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237, USA. Tel: 1 (412) 367 3004; Fax: 1 (412) 367 4373; E-mail: info@mrs.org; Info: <http://www.mrs.org>].

**5–9 April 1999**

**Spring Meeting of the Materials Research Society.** San Francisco, California, USA. [Contact: Materials Research Society, 9800 McKnight Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237, USA. Tel: 1 (412) 367 3004; Fax: 1 (412) 367 4373; E-mail: info@mrs.org; Info: <http://www.mrs.org>].

**22–28 May 1999**

**ACA'99 American Crystallographic Association Annual Meeting.** Buffalo, New York, USA. [Contact: Dr. G. David Smith, Hauptman-Woodward Institute, 73 High Street, Buffalo, NY 14217, USA. Tel: 1 (716) 856 9600; Fax: 1 (716) 852 4846; E-mail: aca@hwi.buffalo.edu; Info: <http://www.hwi.buffalo.edu/aca>].

**26–30 July 1999**

**ICSOS-6 Sixth Annual Conference on Structure of Surfaces.** Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. [Contact: K. A. R. Mitchell, Department of Chemistry, University of British

Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada V6T 1Z1; Tel: 1 (604) 822 5831; Fax: 1 (604) 822 2847].

#### 4–13 August 1999

**18th IUCr General Assembly and International Congress of Crystallography.** Glasgow, Scotland, UK. [Contact: Dr. C. J. Gilmore, Department of Chemistry, University of Glasgow, Glasgow G12 8QQ, Scotland, UK. Tel: 44 (141) 339 8855, Fax: 44 (141) 330 4888; E-mail: iucr99@chem.gla.ac.uk or Prof. J. A. K. Howard, University of Durham, Department of Chemistry, South Road, Durham DH1 3LE, England, UK. Tel: 44 (191) 374 4647, Fax: 44 (191) 374 3745; E-mail: j.a.k.howard@durham.ac.uk; Info: <http://www.chem.gla.ac.uk/iucr99>].

#### 23–28 October 1999

**26th Annual Conference of the Federation of Analytical Chemistry and Spectroscopy Societies.** Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. [Contact: FACSS, 1201 Don Diego Avenue, Santa Fe, NM 87505, USA. Info: <http://facss.org/info.html>].

#### 29 November–3 December 1999

**Fall Meeting of the Materials Research Society.** Boston, Massachusetts, USA. [Contact: Materials Research Society, 9800 McKnight Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237, USA. Tel: 1 (412) 367 3004; Fax: 1 (412) 367 4373; E-mail: [info@mrs.org](mailto:info@mrs.org); Info: <http://www.mrs.org>].

## Regional Reports

**Fifth European Powder Diffraction Conference (EPDIC-5).** Gilberto Artioli and Norberto Masciocchi, Università di Milano, 20113 Milano, Italy

EPDIC-5 was held 25–28 May, 1997, in Parma, Italy. It is the last of a semi-regularly held series of conferences on all aspects of powder diffraction; previous editions were held in Munich (EPDIC-1), Wien (EPDIC-2), Enschede (EPDIC-3), and Chester (EPDIC-4).

The Conference was attended by over 350 scientists from Europe and overseas countries. The number and quality of the scientific contributions and the lively atmosphere at the Conference demonstrated that powder diffraction is an attractive research area for a large community of scientists in fields as diverse as chemistry, physics, mineralogy and biology, and it is a fundamental tool for the characterization of materials ranging from pharmaceutical compounds to art objects.

In spite of the diversity of the contributed studies, the areas of crystal structure solution from powder diffraction data and the one of in situ studies of phase transformations and chemical reactions proved to be of prominent interest, and they seem to be rapidly developing both in the theoretical and in the applied aspects. The latter field includes the topic of the EPDIC Award lecture delivered by the recipient of the Award, Malcolm McMahon (Liverpool), on the powder diffraction studies of highly-condensed matter, and the use of in situ powder diffraction in the study of reaction kinetics by Dermot O'Hare (Oxford). The area of structure solution was well covered by the plenary lectures of Lynne McCusker (Zurich), reviewing the tools that the smart powder crystallographer ought to carry in his structure solution toolbox, and of Yuri Andreev (St. Andrews) and Robert Dinnebier (Bayreuth), who showed specific applications of novel techniques involving simulated annealing and grid search techniques of molecular fragments, respectively.

The present and future roles of synchrotron radiation and neutron sources in powder diffraction were described by Andy Fitch (ESRF, Grenoble) and by Steve Hull (RAL, Did-

cot), while Richard Wagner (Geesthacht) presented some interesting insights on the contributions of neutron scattering in materials science and engineering. Massimo Marezio (Parma) and Bob Snyder (Columbus) brilliantly elucidated the important role of powder diffraction in the characterization of high Tc superconducting materials. The models used in texture analysis of polycrystalline materials were critically reviewed by Matti Jarvinen (Lappeenranta).

The lovely town of Parma and the warm Italian climate did meet with the favor of the participants to EPDIC-5, as did the typical culinary tradition of the area and the social program. The Verdi arias sung in the splendid surroundings of the church of S. Giovanni will most likely be a long-lasting memory of everyone present.

The simultaneous presence at the Conference of most distinguished powder diffraction experts, and of a large number of students and young scientists, made EPDIC-5 an ideal place for the exchange and discussion of recent results and developments. As in the past, future EPDIC Conferences will undoubtedly represent a reference point for all workers in the field. The Chairman of EPDIC-5 (Gilberto Artioli, Milano) warmly invites all scientists to the next edition of EPDIC, EPDIC-6, to be held 22–25 August, 1998, in Budapest, Hungary.

**Fifth Workshop on Powder Diffraction: Ab initio Structure Determination of Molecular Solids from Powder Diffraction.** September 25–28, 1997, University of Bayreuth, Germany. Norberto Masciocchi, Dipartimento di Chimica Strutturale e Stereochimica Inorganica Università, di Milano, Via Venezian, 21-20133 Milano, Italy.

Over 80 scientists from 15 countries participated in the 5th Workshop on Powder Diffraction which took place in Bayreuth (Germany) for the first time. In contrast to previous workshops of this kind, the conference was intended for more advanced users within the powder community. The workshop was incorporated in the activities of the powder diffraction group of the German Society of Crystallography