

Introduction to *ChinaNANO* 2013

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The International Conference on Nanoscience and Technology, China 2013 (*ChinaNANO* 2013) was held September 5–7, 2013 in Beijing, China. In this volume of *Chinese Physics B*, some selected papers delivered at the conference are published.

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ChinaNANO 2013 was the fifth *ChinaNANO* conference, following the ones in 2005, 2007, 2009, and 2011. The primary aim of this series of conferences is to stimulate discussion on the forefront of research in nanoscience and nanotechnology. About 1300 colleagues from more than 40 countries and regions were present. The most recent progress in the frontiers of nanotechnology were reported by five plenary lectures, together with about 480 oral presentations and 800 posters. Ten topical sessions covered the most important topics in the area of nanoscience and technology, including organic, inorganic, carbon nanomaterials and their composites, nanodevices and nanosystems, nanocharacterization and simulation, as well as nanotechnology applications in energy, environmental and healthcare areas. Of special note, the conference has set up the “*ChinaNANO Award*” beginning with *ChinaNANO* 2011. After nominations were made by the organizing committee, three *ChinaNANO Awards* were given this year, to Prof. Michael Grätzel (Ecolepolytechniquefédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland), Prof. Klaus Müllen (Max-Planck-Institute for Polymer Research, Germany), and Prof. Omar Yaghi (University of California, Berkeley, USA) for their eminent contributions to the field of nanoscience and technology.

Based on the work presented at the conference, 32 selected papers are included in this special topical issue. These papers present the most recent progress of various fields of nanoscience and technology, including nanomaterial preparation, nanodevice fabrication and applications in the areas of composite material, energy, environmental and healthcare. Four reviews were invited on the fields of dye-sensitized solar cells, silicon nanoparticles, carbon nanomaterials, and nanomaterials for cancer theranostics. All the papers published in this special topic have been peer reviewed through processes administered by Dr. Wang Jiu-Li, the Editorial Director of *Chinese Physics B*. We sincerely hope that these papers will contribute to the advancement of nanoscience and technology.

Special thanks should be directed to the organizing committee for their tremendous efforts in organizing the conference. The conference is organized by National Center for Nanoscience and Technology, China, sponsored by National Steering Committee for Nanotechnology, and supported by Ministry of Science and Technology of China, Ministry of Education of China, National Natural Science Foundation of China, Chinese Academy of Sciences, and China Association for Science and Technology.

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