



Preface

The Eleventh International Conference on Fusion Reactor Materials (ICFRM-11) was held December 7–12, 2003 at the Kyoto International Conference Hall in Kyoto, Japan. The purpose of the conference was to continue the series of international forums devoted to the exchange of the latest information on the science and technology of fusion reactor materials.

The technology for fusion energy is rapidly reaching maturity, with materials technology one of the frontiers of the world's fusion programs. Two decades of materials research and development focused on fusion applications has established a substantial technology base. The ICFRM series has documented progress in this field since the first conference held in Tokyo in 1984. The conference series had continually increased its coverage to the point where ICFRM-11 included the comprehensive range of materials science and technology areas that enable system designers to meet the needs of current experiments and to present innovative solutions for future energy systems.

The idea of the ICFRM conference series was proposed by the late Professor R.R. Hasiguti, Professor Emeritus of the University of Tokyo, at the First Topical Meeting on Fusion Reactor Materials in 1989 in Miami Beach. He had completed arrangements and invited world participation at the time of the Second Topical Meeting in Seattle in August 1981.

The first ICFRM was held in Tokyo on December 3–6, 1984 with 264 participants from 15 countries, of which 79 were from overseas countries. The conference series has grown since that time. ICFRM-11 included 502 contributed papers presented in poster sessions, and the oral presentation of 64 contributed papers and 22 invited papers. The invited papers included 10 plenary presentations. The conference attracted 540 participants from 27 countries.

To keep the Proceedings within a reasonable number of pages it was necessary to invoke strict page limits on each paper, which imposed a severe burden on the authors. Due to the page limitations and the consequences of rigorous refereeing, most authors were requested to rewrite their papers. We believe that this has made these Proceedings a reasonably concise and condensed source of high quality information.

A high quality conference is only possible with the collaboration, diligence and efforts of many peoples. At this point the editors would like to express their deepest appreciation to the authors, the reviewers, the participants and the members of the various committees for their great contributions. Our special thanks go to the members of the local committees and the supporting staff from Kyoto University.

The editors are very happy to hear that the Twelfth International Conference on Fusion Reactor Materials (ICFRM-12) has been scheduled in Santa Barbara, USA, December 4–9, 2005. We hope to see all of you at that next convening of the ICFRM family.

Finally, we would like to express our deepest respect and appreciation to the late Professor Michio Kiritani for his many accomplishments and contributions to fusion materials science and technology. The Kiritani Memorial Session was organized in his honor, as a part of this Conference.

Akira Kohyama
Takeo Muroga
Akihiko Kimura
Katsunori Abe
Bill Wiffen
Roger Stoller
Guest Editors