

Structure and Function of Biomolecules II

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PREFACE

Structure and Function of Biomolecules II

The Workshop on the Structure and Function of Biomolecules II took place in Bedlewo near Poznan, Poland, on May 11–13, 2006.

The Workshop was an event organized under the auspices of the Division of Physics in Life Science of the European Physical Society. It was sponsored by the ASPECT Centre of Excellence for Advanced Spectroscopy Applications in Physics, Modern Science, Biology and Environmental Protection (the European Community contract GMA1-2002-72801), by the Institute of Physics, Polish Academy of Sciences, and by the Committee of Physics of the Polish Academy of Sciences. This event followed up a first Workshop on the Structure and Function of Biomolecules, which was held at the same location on May 13–15, 2004. The Workshop gathered approximately 120 participants from the European Community, Russia, Switzerland, and the USA.

The scientific aim of this Workshop was to provide an active forum for cross-disciplinary interactions between specialists who are active in different fields related to biomolecules, with emphasis on proteins and nucleic acids. The workshop covered a broad range of various experimental and theoretical subjects which included: protein structural studies, protein aggregation, mechanical stretching of proteins, protein kinetics, aggregation of biomolecules, bioinformatics, novel spectroscopic methods for studying protein conformation, and molecular aspects of neurodegenerative diseases. There were 33 invited lectures and 52 poster contributions presented at the Workshop. This Special Issue of *Journal of Physics: Condensed Matter* contains a sample of the research presented at the Workshop.

Marek Cieplak, Andrzej Sienkiewicz and Ryszard Stolarski

The Workshop Organizers