Proceedings of the Workshop on Mechanical Behavior of Glassy Materials (Vancouver, 21–23 July 2007)

2008 J. Phys.: Condens. Matter 20 240302

(http://iopscience.iop.org/0953-8984/20/24/240302)

J. Phys.: Condens. Matter **20** (2008) 240302 (1pp) doi:10.1088/0953-8984/20/24/240302

PREFACE

Proceedings of the Workshop on Mechanical Behavior of Glassy Materials (Vancouver, 21–23 July 2007)

Guest Editors

Joerg Rottler
University of British Columbia

Malcolm Kennett
Simon Fraser University

Philip Stamp
University of British Columbia

This special issue highlights some of the research topics presented at the workshop on Mechanical Behavior of Glassy Materials, which took place in Vancouver, Canada from 21–23 July 2007. The workshop was organized under the auspices of the Pacific Institute of Theoretical Physics (PITP) with support from the Pacific Institute of Mathematical Sciences (PIMS) and Simon Fraser University (SFU). During this three-day event, 23 invited lectures were presented to an international group of about 40 participants. The full conference program as well as an archive of all presentations can be found online at http://pitp.physics.ubc.ca/confs/glass07/.

The aim of the workshop was to bring together theorists and experimentalists working on glassy systems, with mechanical properties as the unifying theme. The talks touched on many aspects of the glass problem, from theories of the glass transition and mode coupling approaches to glassy dynamics, to spin glasses, simulations and theories of amorphous plasticity, the universal origin of ageing and dynamical heterogeneity in glasses, and glassy phenomena in biological systems. The interplay of ideas from high- and low-temperature (quantum) regimes of glasses led to lively discussions that brought researchers in both communities to explore similarities and differences in their respective ideas and physical systems.

Progress was made on several fronts, and we hope that everyone involved left with some new perspective on their particular corner of interest in a class of problems that continues to present many challenges.

