

Proceedings of the 6th International Workshop on LEEM/PEEM (Trieste, 7–11 September 2008)

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2009 J. Phys.: Condens. Matter 21 310301

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## PREFACE

# Proceedings of the 6th International Workshop on LEEM/PEEM (Trieste, 7–11 September 2008)

### Guest Editors

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The present issue of *Journal of Physics: Condensed Matter* hosts the proceedings of the 6th LEEM/PEEM international workshop, which was held in Trieste, Italy, 7–11 September 2008. Driven by the progress of cathode lens microscopy and its applications, the LEEM/PEEM workshop has grown steadily over the past years and reached a record of 130 participants from 19 countries in its tenth anniversary. Following the expansion of LEEM/PEEM instruments worldwide, the success of the LEEM/PEEM workshop reflects the growth of a lively and heterogeneous research community, and is catalyzed by exciting ongoing instrumental developments. The contributions presented here demonstrate the current status of LEEM/PEEM, and anticipate its bright future and great potential. As aberration corrected microscopes approach lateral resolution close to a few nm and time resolved methods allow ultra fast processes to be explored, experiments that have been dreamed of for a long time are becoming a reality, opening new opportunities in many research fields.

This issue has been made a festschrift in honor of Professor Ernst Bauer, who invented LEEM in 1962, made it to fruition in 1985, and since then pioneered several other microscopic methods using slow electrons, such as spin-polarized LEEM (SPLEEM) and energy filtered XPEEM at synchrotron radiation sources (SPELEEM). Ernst Bauer also initiated the LEEM/PEEM workshop series in 1998, encouraging the exchange of know-how within the newborn LEEM community and thereby promoting harmonious and collaborative spirit. In the year of his 80th birthday, this festschrift wants to honor Ernst Bauer, as a scientist and colleague, for his outstanding scientific achievements. It is also a respectful homage to the man who has been a teacher and guide for many researchers, who in turn are contributing significantly to further developments and innovations in this field.