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Preface



It is our pleasure to report the publication of the proceedings of the Science and Applications of Thin Films, Conference & Exhibition (SATF 2014) which focused on various topics related to thin films and associated phenomena, and their applications. SATF 2014 was held at the Altin Yunus Resort & Thermal Hotel, Cesme, Izmir, Turkey, from September 15 to 19, 2014. It was a very successful conference with over 450 abstracts submitted from 44 countries, of which 30 were invited talks, and the rest distributed between 103 contributed talks and over 250 poster presentations. More information about the conference can be found at <http://www.satf2014.org/>.

SATF 2014 constituted a valuable platform for individuals to present their research findings, display their work in progress and discuss conceptual advances in many different branches of thin films. At the same time, it provided an important opportunity to bring prominent scientists together from various countries, with a common objective to exchange information and ideas, to promote stimulus discussions and collaborations among participants and furthermore to foster young scientists. Additionally, we hope that the delegates and companions also enjoyed the unique beauty of Cesme and the social program in the touristic and historical places of the surrounding area.

Vacuum and Applied Surface Science were selected for publishing a special issue of SATF. Submission of papers for the proceedings was on a volunteer basis and submitted papers peer-reviewed by the organizers through processes administered by the Editorial Board and Scientific Committee. Reviews were conducted by expert referees at professional level and with the scientific standards expected of a special journal issue published by Elsevier publishing. Based on refereed evaluation of all the papers submitted, about 40 papers were selected for publication in Vacuum and Applied Surface Science. We are very pleased to have worked with Elsevier on the conference proceedings.

Many people worked together in organizing SATF 2014 and ensuring its success. It is a great pleasure for us to thank all of the speakers, the participants, our colleagues in the Conference Committee and the IZTECH staff and students for their efforts which made SATF 2014 such a successful meeting. A special thanks should also be extended to the session chairs and to the reviewers who generously donated their time to evaluate the submissions. Many more people spent many hours helping with SATF 2014, many more than we could possibly acknowledge in this short preface. We hope that they found their involvement just as interesting and fun as we did.

It is due to the immense demand from most of the attendees that we are planning to organize the second Science and Applications of Thin Films, Conference & Exhibition (SATF 2016). We will be very happy to host the next conference and look forward to welcoming you again at SATF 2016 in Turkey.

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