

Preface

Expanding New Trends in Surface Analysis to the Younger Generation

On behalf of all committee members of PSA-19, it is a great pleasure to invite the PSA-19 (8th International Symposium on Practical Surface Analysis), which will be held in Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan, in November 2019. The PSA International Symposium was held in Matsue in 1998 and has been held alternately in Korea and Japan every three years. It has been 21 years since the 1st PSA International Symposium. Thanks to the prominent forerunners, PSA Symposium has been recognized now around the world. Through the PSA Symposia, the researchers and engineers of Japan and Korea, as well as Western countries and Asian countries, have cultivated the friendship. I believe that the friendship does not break down no matter what.

Today, surface analysis is applied not only for research and development, but also for manufacturing and quality control of various products. The PSA Committees have carried new ideas in encouraging them to participate the symposia. The PSA-19 Committee established a new award of Outstanding Abstract Award to the most excellent paper submitted early. The JSA Editorial Committee of SASJ has established a support system to submit papers. We hope more participants, especially young people to learn a lot from the world's leading experts, and make friendships with them.

I would like to appreciate all the participants, sponsors, staffs and all involved in preparing for the PSA-19. Hokkaido is a land that pioneers have cultivated the rough land into vast farms and ranches. Nowadays, Hokkaido is a comfortable place where we enjoy many delicious foods from sea, and mountain. It has ranked No.1 in an attractiveness ranking for 10 consecutive years.

We would like to hand over the achievement by the pioneers of surface analysis to the younger generation and expand the base of surface analysis. Recently, the importance of data science for artificial intelligence (AI), materials informatics (MI), Internet of Things (IoT), etc. is increasing. It should be also necessary for us to develop new contents and systems corresponding to the new techniques, too. In order to promote the discussions for the next stage, we would like to explore new trends in IoT and AI, as well as new fusion beyond the field of MI, keeping up with the times.

To that end, we hope to develop the PSA International Symposium that will be held in the future together with the participants. I would like to invite all of you to join us at this landmark event. And I look forward to seeing everyone again.

Dr. Katsuaki Yanagiuchi
Chairperson, Organizing Committee, PSA-19