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Preface

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The 20th International Conference on Few-Body Problems in Physics (FB20) was held from 20 August to 25 August in 2012, at Fukuoka Convention Center faced to Hakata bay in Fukuoka, Japan. Recent progresses on few-body problems in particle, nuclear, atomic, and mathematical physics were discussed by about 300 participants from 29 countries.

The first conference of this series was held in London in 1959, and subsequent 19 conferences were held in Brela (1967), Birmingham (1969), Budapest (1971), Los Angeles (1972), Laval (1974), Delhi (1976), Graz (1978), Eugene (1980), Karlsruhe (1983), Sendai (1986), Vancouver (1989), Adelaide (1992), Williamsburg (1994), Groningen (1997), Taipei (2000), Durham (2003), Santos (2006), Bonn (2009), and Fukuoka (2012, FB20).

In the present FB20 conference, 35 talks in 6 plenary sessions, 157 talks in 32 parallel sessions, and 59 posters in a poster session were presented in 6 days from Monday to Saturday, on the following subjects:

QCD in Few-Body Systems
Hadron Structure
Few-Hadron Systems and Their Interactions
Strange and Exotic Systems
Few-Nucleon Systems and Their Interactions
Light Nuclei: Structure and Reaction
Effective Field Theory
Relativistic Aspects of Few-Body Systems
Atom-Molecular Systems and Cold Atoms
Nuclear Astrophysics
Methods in Few-Body Systems
Other Related Topics

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Contents of the talks and a list of the posters are reported in papers in the present issues of Few-Body Systems. Scientific programs are cited at <http://www.phys.kyushu-u.ac.jp/fb20/>.

During the conference, some social programs were also held; a bus tour to an old shrine in Wednesday afternoon, a public lecture on ILC (International Linear Collider) in Wednesday evening, and a conference dinner wearing Kimono in Thursday evening. In Monday evening, a memorial informal meeting for Walter Gloekle who passed away in 2012 was held.

The conference was organized by a local organizing committee of 9 members, a scientific program committee of 19 members, and an international advisory committee (IAC) of 55 members. In these committee members and in the plenary speakers, 16–20 % are females. FB20 conference was approved as IUPAP B-type conference (more than 300 participants) in 2010. In IAC meeting during the present FB20 conference in 2012, discussion was made on the next FB21 conference in 2015 at ANL in USA and on candidate cites for FB22 in 2018.

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International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP)

Kyushu University

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