Preface

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The International Symposium on Quantum Fluids and Solids QFS2015 was held at the Niagara Falls Convention Center August 9–15, 2015, Niagara Falls, NY, USA. This is the 21st conference in a series which started in 1975. QFS meetings are held in years when the triennial International Conference on Low Temperature Physics is not held. The conference series covers novel developments in the subjects of

- Quantum Fluids: Liquid ^4He , ^3He , ^3He - ^4He Mixtures, Hydrogen, (QF)
- Trapped Atomic Gases (QG)
- Quantum Solids—Supersolidity, Plasticity (QS)
- Vorticity and Turbulence (VT)
- Low-dimensional and confined systems (LD)
- Superconductivity (SC)
- Novel Experimental Techniques Developed at Low Temperatures (TC)
- Other topics and model systems (OT)

QFS2015 attracted about 200 registered participants from all over the world. There were participants from 18 countries outside the United States. The United States had the largest number of participants followed by Japan (43) and the United Kingdom (20). The major conference funding, aside from registration fees, came through grants from the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics IUPAP, the US National Science Foundation, and internal support from the Physics Department, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the office of the Vice President for Research of the University at Buffalo. Other contributors are listed on the QFS2015 web site. The combination of all these funding sources allowed the conference to provide \$27 K of support for participants, especially students and junior investigators.

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The scientific program for the conference can be obtained at <http://www.physics.buffalo.edu/QFS2015>. There were 60 invited talks and about 200 posters which were divided in 2-day segments. The posters were displayed in the same lecture space used for the oral presentations; hence, there was a continuous dialogue between participants which extended over all breaks from the oral presentations. This was in addition to the traditional late afternoon set aside for posters viewing. The posters were divided in two groups. Each group was allowed two days for their presentations.

The advisory and program committee for the conference consisted of 28 international scholars, among whom five were women. There were also six women scientists who gave invited talks among those who participated in the conference.

The afternoon of Aug. 13th was set aside for an excursion to the Falls, the surrounding parks, and the Niagara Gorge. The conference banquet was held in the Convention Center that evening.

A new feature of QFS2015 was a series of eight tutorial lectures given on Aug. 15–16. This targeted students and junior investigators. There were as many as 50 participants for some of these lectures. This was a very successful addition to the QFS program. Its success is partly due to the fact that the 18th International Conference in Many-Body Theory was held at the same site on Aug. 16–21. There is some degree of overlapping interests in these two communities. Lecturers at these tutorials were Erkki Thuneberg, Francis Gasparini, Jordi Boronat, and Gerardo Ortiz.

This Special Issue of Journal of Low Temperature Physics contains papers which were submitted as contributions to QFS2015. Additional papers which did not meet the reviewing timeline will be published in future issues of the Journal. All papers were reviewed by at least two referees.

We would like to thank the members of the program committee and the local organizing committee for their help and suggestions to make QFS2015 a successful and exciting event.