Preface

The 11th IUMRS-ICA 2010 (ICA-2010) conference organized by C-MRS was held in Qingdao city, China from 25th to 28th September 2010. The event was timely and impressive not only due to the rapid development of science and technology in China and Asian areas but also due to the emerging cultural and economic transformation.

I had been invited to take part in Session Q: Magnetic Materials at Nano-scale, and gave an invited talk about the magnetism at nanoscale: design & characterization of nanohybrids. Many Chinese young researchers with an academic degree and/or research experience over several years abroad presented their recent results. Their nice work and high enthusiasm impressed me greatly. During the conference, we had a lot of detailed and thorough discussions, and could enjoy this meeting, also thanked to its perfect organization. I felt really welcome and appreciated by the Asian and Chinese scientific community and was impressed by the high international standards of the scientific reports. Some participants submitted their results for publication in *SCIENCE CHINA Physics, Mechanics & Astronomy*, which forms a special issue here.

We also would like to acknowledge the great effort made by the organization committee, program chairs and all the volunteers.

I am already looking forward to the next conference in China.

FARLE Michael
Professor and vice president
University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany
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Prof. FARLE is heading a group of about 30 postdoctors, Ph.D students, graduates, and technicians. His research work focuses on the magnetic properties of novel low-dimensional magnetic structures (nano-magnetism). This involves the preparation of nano-structured, multifunctional materials by various techniques ranging from magnetic mono/multilayer deposition in UHV, to the self-organized assembly of colloidal systems consisting of metallic superparamagnetic nanoparticles.

Prof. FARLE has published more than 160 papers in refereed journals. He works and teaches at the Physics Department of the University of Duisburg-Essen since August 2002. He has been the coordinator of two Research Training Networks funded by the European Union (5th/6th framework), is the vice-speaker of the collaborative research center (Sonderforschungsbereich) 491, the host to a Marie Curie Excellence Grant Holder. Since July 2008 Prof. FARLE is the vice-president for research at the University of Duisburg-Essen.