

## TCO2008 Illuminates Latest Research in Transparent Conductive Oxides

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The 2nd International Symposium on Transparent Conductive Oxides, sponsored by the University of Crete, the Foundation for Research and Technology-Hellas (FORTH), the Prefecture and the Municipality of Heraklion Crete, Greece, and with the endorsement of the Materials Research Society, was held in Crete on October 22–26, 2008. G. Kiriakidis of the University of Crete chaired the symposium with the support of his co-chairs, Elvira Fortunato of CENIMAT, Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia-Universidade Nova de Lisboa (FCT-UNL), Portugal; Sang Yeol Lee of Korea Institute of Science and Technology, South Korea; Lionel Vayssieres of the National Institute for Materials Science, Tsukuba, Japan and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, USA; and Clark Bright of 3M CRPL, USA.

Christophe Lesniak, a scientific officer of the European Commission, opened the symposium with a plenary address on "EU [European Union] Industrial Technologies Strategy Nanotechnologies/Materials/Production." Marie-Isabelle Baraton of the University of Limoges and Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), France presented an introductory overview on "TCO Materials for Gas Sensors: Stakes and Challenges." An additional highlight of the symposium was a keynote presentation by H. Hosono of Tokyo University, Japan on a new class of quaternary metal oxide materials (ZrSiCuAs-type) with a significant electroactive functionality layered structure.

Among the highlights of the symposium was an overview given by Rodrigo Martins (CENIMAT, FCT-UNL) on "Amorphous Oxide Semiconductors: From Materials to Devices" during which



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Martins presented recent achievements in the fabrication of the first "paper transistor," which was fabricated on a flexible/cellulose substrate. Martins said, "This is not the first time that a device is fabricated on paper, but it is unprecedented for the paper to make up a functional part of the device. Thus, the novelty is that the paper is not only the substrate—meaning that the paper is a passive component—but, in this case, the paper acts as the dielectric layer."

A symposium landmark introduced in 2006 was the "after dinner session" com-

posed of an open discussion of the future prospects of TCO materials. The symposium also devoted an afternoon to tutorials. All submitted papers will be reviewed for publication in a special volume of *Thin Solid Films* in May 2009.

The symposium schedule included a Gala dinner and an excursion to the ancient island of Spinalonga on the east side of Crete near the village of Elounda. The next TCO symposium will be held again in Crete in 2010.

GEORGE KIRIAKIDIS  
Chair, TCO2008

MRS

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