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EDITORS

GUOZHONG CAO

QIFENG ZHANG

University of Washington, USA

C. JEFFREY BRINKER

University of New Mexico and Sandia National Laboratories, USA

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PREFACE

Annual Review of Nano Research publishes excellent review articles in selected topic areas authored by those who are authorities in their own subfields of nanotechnology with two vital aims: (1) to present a comprehensive and coherent distilling of the state-of-the-art experimental results and understanding of theories detailed from the otherwise segmented and scattered literature, and (2) to offer critical opinions regarding the challenges, promises, and possible future directions of nano research.

The third volume of *Annual Review of Nano Research* includes 11 articles offering a concise review detailing recent advancements in a few selected subfields in nanotechnology. The first topic to be focused upon in this volume is the bio-applications of and bio-inspired nanostructured materials. The second featured subfield is the recent advancement in the synthesis and fabrication of nanomaterials or nanostructures. Energy related applications of nanostructures and nanomaterials are the third focal topic in this volume.

We want to thank all the contributing authors for their time and efforts devoted to the excellent review articles published in this volume. Mr. Yeow-Hwa Quek from World Scientific Publishing was responsible for much of the coordination necessary to make the publication of this volume possible.

Guozhong Cao
Seattle, WA

Qifeng Zhang
Seattle, WA

C. Jeffrey Brinker
Albuquerque, NM

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CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS

Aranda, Pilar

- * Instituto de Ciencia de Materiales de Madrid, Spain

Arcos, Daniel

- * Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Madrid, Spain
- * Networking Research Center on Bioengineering, CIBER-BBN, Spain

Bailey, Kelly

- * Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO), Australia
- * The University of Adelaide, Australia

Bally, Marta

- * Institute for Biomedical Engineering, Switzerland

Cao, Guozhong

- * University of Washington, USA

Cheng, Xing

- * Texas A&M University, USA

Cooper, Tamara

- * Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO), Australia
- * The University of Adelaide, Australia

Darder, Margarita

- * Instituto de Ciencia de Materiales de Madrid, Spain
- * Instituto Madrileño de Estudios Avanzados en Materiales (IMDEA-Materiales), Spain

Glatz, Richard V.

- * South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI), Australia

Guo, L. Jay

* The University of Michigan, USA

Izquierdo-Barba, Isabel

* Universidad Complutense de Madrid; Madrid, Spain

* Networking Research Center on Bioengineering, CIBER-BBN, Spain

Kim, Jaemin

* Brown University, USA

Leifert, Wayne R.

* Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO), Australia

Lin, Victor S.-Y.

* U.S. Department of Energy Ames Laboratory, USA

* Iowa State University, USA

Matsui, Shinji

* University of Hyogo 3-1-2 Koto, Japan

Peng, Sheng

* Brown University, USA

Reimhult, Erik

* Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology, Switzerland

Ruiz-Hitzky, Eduardo

* Instituto de Ciencia de Materiales de Madrid, Spain

Sepehri, Saghar

* University of Washington, USA

Shapter, Joseph G.

* Flinders University, Australia

Shen, Rui

* University of Rochester, USA

Stadler, Brigitte Maria

* The University of Melbourne, Australia

Sun, Shouheng

* Brown University, USA

Thiagarajan, Suraj Joottu

* University of Colorado, USA

Thommes, Matthias

* Quantachrome Instruments, USA

Trewyn, Brian G.

* U.S. Department of Energy Ames Laboratory, USA

* Iowa State University, USA

Wang, Wei

* University of Colorado, USA

Yang, Hong

* University of Rochester, USA

Yang, Ronggui

* University of Colorado, USA

Vallet-Regí, Maria

* Universidad Complutense de Madrid; Madrid, Spain

* Networking Research Center on Bioengineering, CIBER-BBN, Spain

Vivero-Escoto, Juan L.

* U.S. Department of Energy Ames Laboratory, USA

* Iowa State University, USA

Zhang, Qifeng

* University of Washington, USA