Ten years of “Condensed Matter Physics”

This year the journal “Condensed Matter Physics” celebrates its tenth anniversary. It was founded in 1993 by the Institute for Condensed Matter Physics of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine for the purpose of publishing the regular and review papers in the field of statistical mechanics and condensed matter theory. The first numbers of the journal contained the papers written in Ukrainian. Since 1994 “Condensed Matter Physics” has been published in English. It has been issued quarterly since 1997. Early in 1998 the journal’s design was changed and a new manner of its issues’ numeration was introduced. The published papers mainly focused on the physics of solids, liquids and polymers, soft matter and amorphous systems with the emphasis on phase equilibria and phase transitions, transport phenomena, thermal, structural, electrical, magnetic and optical properties of condensed matter systems.

The permanent practice of the journal “Condensed Matter Physics” is publishing the regular issues with the papers submitted by the authors’ initiatives as well as the special issues on the topics which collect the papers devoted to the relevant problems of condensed matter physics (there were issues of jubilee or memorial character among the latter). The journal has published 12 special issues for the last ten years. Among the problems covered were thermodynamic, structural and dynamic properties of fluids, kinetic and hydrodynamic processes in physical systems, phase transitions and critical phenomena in complex systems, theory of strongly correlated systems and high temperature superconductivity, thermofield dynamics for the description of classical and quantum systems, thermodynamic, structural and dynamic properties of star polymers. Besides, the journal has published the proceedings of international conferences and workshops. Some of them are: Workshops on Statistical Physics and Condensed Matter Theory (1996, 1999, 2001), Workshop on the Problems of Physical and Chemical Processes in Fuelcontaining Masses of the Chornobyl Site “Shelter” (1999), Ukrainian-Polish and East-European Meetings on Ferroelectrics Physics (1999, 2003).

During ten years of its existence “Condensed Matter Physics” has published 441 papers of which 266 are the works by physicists from Ukraine, 116 are the works by foreign physicists and 59 are the works prepared through the collaboration of foreign and Ukrainian researchers. In addition, 24 papers were published under the separate headings. In particular, Book Review: 5 publications, Personalia: 19 publications. The median receipt-to-publication time of the papers for a regular issue is about six months.

During this fruitful period, among the authors of “Condensed Matter Physics” were numerous well-known scholars: G.Stell, D.Henderson, D.N.Zubarev, L.Blum, Yu.L.Klimontovich, O.H.Sytenko, I.R.Yukhnovskii, S.V.Peletminsky, N.Plakida, R.Balescu, W.Götze, P.A.Henning, W.Ebeling, R.Folk, J.-P.Badiali, J.K.Percus, M.Zoppi, V.Morozov and others.

Besides the researchers from the Institute for Condensed Matter Physics, the Editorial Board of the journal include the scholars from various Ukrainian research institutions. Scientists from abroad, the well-known specialists in different fields of condensed matter theory, are also members of the Board. The papers submitted to "Condensed Matter Physics" are necessarily reviewed by two experts. The list of our experts covers both the Ukrainian and foreign scholars. The papers are abstracted and indexed in the journals: "Chemical Abstracts"(USA), "Dzherelo" (Ukraine), INSPEC (UK), "PubScience" (USA), "Referativnyj Zhurnal" (Russia). In 2003 "Condensed Matter Physics" was included in the list of scientific journals recognized by the European Physical Society.

"Condensed Matter Physics" is distributed in Ukraine among the main scientific libraries and the libraries of research institutes and universities directly by the Institute for Condensed Matter Physics as well as by state distributor "PRESA" and by enterprise "IDEYA". We also send the journal to the libraries of a number of foreign universities and research centers (Poland, Great Britain, Austria, Japan, China). In recent years, we extended the practice of the journal exchange with other publishers of scientific periodicals. The full electronic version of "Condensed Matter Physics" is available on the World Wide Web at no extra cost.

The journal "Condensed Matter Physics" approached its first decade at the stage of stable work and successive development. Among the plans and tasks of the founder of the journal, the Institute for Condensed Matter Physics, and of the Editorial Board are: to broaden the participation of foreign colleagues in order to further meliorate the level of the research papers as well as to maintain high quality and rapid reviewing of the submitted papers. Another purpose is the inclusion of the journal in the list of the ISI Database. Furthermore, the purpose of the Editorial Board is also to extend the practice of publishing the review papers and the special issues by attracting well-known specialists in corresponding fields of physics. Among our forthcoming plans is the publication of the two special issues in 2004 that will collect the papers on the theory of metals and alloys and the theory of the non-equilibrium processes and transport phenomena.

The Editorial Board would like to thank the authors for their contributions to "Condensed Matter Physics" as well as the experts for their persistent work in the journal. We wish all of you to stay in good health and hope for a further fruitful collaboration.