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Personalia

Taras Bryk's 50th birthday

Our dear friend and colleague, Taras Bryk, turned 50. Our warmest congratulations and best wishes of staying in good health, prosperity and new achievements!

Taras was born in 1963 in Drohobych, about 80km from Lviv. He attended Lviv secondary school No.28 and then studied in the Department of Physics of Ivan Franko Lviv National University from which he graduated with *magna cum laude* in 1985. After a brief employment at the same Department, he started his carrier at the Institute for Condensed Matter Physics (ICMP) of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine in 1987 (then Lviv Division of Statistical Physics of the Institute for Theoretical Physics). He marched all the way from an engineer to his current positions of vice-director and head of the Department for Computer Simulations of Many-Particle Systems.

The field of scientific activities of Taras Bryk covers computer simulations on various scales — from ab initio simulations of systems under high pressure to classical molecular dynamics of water-ice interface and various binary mixtures, to the works devoted to the pseudopotential theory and the combination of theoretical and simulation approaches in the studies of collective modes in liquids. In each of these activities, he tightly collaborated with the leading experts in the fields, to name Z. Gurskii, J.Hafner, L.Kleinman, T.Haymet, I.Mryglod, G.Ruocco... His "thirst" for solving new problems and for establishing new collaborations turned out to be quite fruitful and brought about numerous well-cited papers recognized by the scientific community.

A need to communicate and exchange ideas with colleagues all over the world urges the organization of numerous conferences and workshops hosted (or co-hosted) during the recent years by the ICMP. The active role played by Taras Bryk in various aspects of the organization of such events is hard to underestimate. He is the one who invites leading experts, personally manages conference programs and proceedings, etc. Besides that, since 2006, he has been teaching numerous courses at the National University "Lviv Polytechnic", as well as serves as an expert in the State Attestation Council (for granting Ph.D. and Dr.Sci. degrees) and as a secretary of the "Soft matter" Scientific Council of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine. He is an active and scrupulous Associative Editor of the journal "Condensed Matter Physics" who manages the scientific direction of computer simulations, dynamics of liquids and glasses and the solid/liquid interfaces.

Taras is also a skilled football player, mountain skier and classic jazz admirer, and all of this definitely contributes to his broad positive sense of living. And what is most important, he is a very good family man and an excellent colleague and friend.

We wish you, our good friend, future discoveries, satisfaction from the work you do and many more good surprises from the life to come!