

OPTICA APPLICATA

Vol. XXX (2000) No. 4

PL ISSN 0078-5466

Index 367729

A joint publication of the

INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS,
WROCLAW UNIVERSITY
OF TECHNOLOGY,
POLAND

&

SPIE/POLAND CHAPTER
in association with
SPIE—THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY
FOR OPTICAL ENGINEERING

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Editorial

This special issue of *Optica Applicata* contains 33 papers presented at the

5th Seminar Porous Glasses – Special Glasses, PGL 2000

which was held in Szklarska Poręba, Poland, on September 14–18, 2000. Seminar was organized by the Institute of Physics, Wrocław University of Technology and Polish Ceramic Society, while financial support was granted by the Polish Committee for Scientific Research (KBN).

The PGL 2000 Seminar was dedicated to novel problems of porous glasses and special glasses the emphasis being given to optical properties of glasses impregnated with different compounds and their application as sensors, as well as structure and properties of water on the pore surface. Also, papers on the structure of phosphate and alumino-silicate glasses and the results of study of structure of lead-, bismuth-, antimony-silicate and germanate glasses were given. Bioactivity glasses, electrochromic and photochromic glasses were also within the scope of Seminar.

About 40 works were presented at both oral and poster sessions by scientists from the following countries: Belgium, Israel, Russia, Ukraine and Poland.

Many papers presented at the Seminar were the result of mutual cooperation of scientists representing well known research centres from different countries.

The scientific sessions and informal discussion resulted in mention of some new ideas and research projects in our special field of interest. Therefore, the idea of continuation of such seminars seemed to gain a strong support.

For the Organizing Committee
Dr Ewa Rysiakiewicz-Pasek
Guest Editor