

12th January 2022

Dear Colleagues:

This is the first announcement of the 20th International Symposium on Laser-Aided Plasma Diagnostics (LAPD20). This Symposium is being organized jointly by the National Institute for Fusion Science and Hokkaido University, and will take place from Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> September 2022 (evening reception) to Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at Kyoto Garden Palace Hotel, Kyoto, Japan. The symposium will be organized on-site only.

LAPD20 was originally scheduled in 2021, however, due to the COVID pandemic, the symposium is postponed until 2022. Still the pandemic in September 2022 is unpredictable. The International Scientific Committee (ISC) will make a final decision in March 2022. If on-site organization is difficult, the symposium will be postponed again until 2023. The ISC believes that direct and interactive communication is essential for this event. The symposium website is at https://lapd20.nifs.ac.jp/ and will be the main source for information about the meeting. The Local Organizing Committee welcomes questions about the symposium at lapd20@nifs.ac.jp.

The LAPD20 Symposium is a continuation of the biennial series that began at Kyushu University in 1983 (the source of the logo for the symposium). It brings together physicists and chemists from different disciplines in various laser-based plasma diagnostic areas, such as laser physics, low-temperature plasma chemistry and physics, and the physics of nuclear fusion. The symposium is a unique and fruitful meeting for cross-pollination between these fields. The symposium covers all diagnostics aided by electromagnetic waves (lasers and microwaves) applied to fusion plasmas, industrial process plasmas, environmental plasmas, plasmas for medical applications, atmospheric plasmas, plasmas in liquids and other plasma applications. Hardware developments related to laser-aided plasma diagnostics are also welcome.

You are invited to share your latest research progress in the above-mentioned areas with experts from around the world at this symposium. The deadlines and abstract submission guidelines will be declared in the second announcement in March 2022. The International Scientific Committee (listed below) will select speakers for invited general and topical lectures.

Kyoto Garden Palace Hotel is located at the front of Kyoto Imperial Palace and close to the center of Kyoto city. Frequent bus and underground services to the center of the city are available. Also, the city center is about 40-minutes walk away. Further information on the Kyoto Garden Palace Hotel is obtainable at https://www.hotelgp-kyoto.com/english/. Kyoto is one of the most popular places in Japan for visitors. This city was the capital of Japan from 8<sup>th</sup> century until the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. There are plenty of historical places to visit. Accommodation details will be provided on the symposium website.

Best regards,

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International Scientific Committee

P. Bilkova (Chair), Institute of Plasma Physics, Czech Republic
J. P. Booth, Ecole Polytechnique, Palaiseau, France
A. Diallo, Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory, Princeton, USA
R. Engeln, Eindhoven University of Technology, Netherland
Ivo Furno, Swiss Plasma Center (SPC), Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland
L. Giudicotti, University of Padova, Italy
Y-C. Ghim, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, South Korea (Vice Chair)
J. P. van Helden, Leibniz Institute for Plasma Science and Technology, Germany
H. Liu, Institute of Plasma Physics Chinese Academy of Sciences, China
K. Sasaki, Hokkaido University, Japan
F. Skiff, University of Iowa, USA
K. Tanaka, National Institute for Fusion Science, Japan (LOC Chair)