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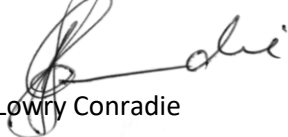
Foreword CYC2019

The 22nd International Conference on Cyclotrons and their Applications (CYC2019) took place from September 22 to 27 at the Westin Hotel in Cape Town, South Africa. The conference was proudly hosted by iThemba LABS (Laboratory for Accelerator Based Sciences) and coincided with the launch of the first phase of the much anticipated SAIF (South African Isotope Facility) project. iThemba LABS has a proud history of hosting the international cyclotron conference with the 14th edition of this conference also hosted in South Africa and opened by our former president, Nelson Mandela.

As has been the trend with previous cyclotron conferences, the focus and themes of the conference appear to be in a constant state of change. This movement reflects the vigorous research and development in the field, ultimately resulting in numerous practical benefits for the society as a whole. This is abundantly apparent from the number of new cyclotrons currently planned or being commissioned. Many of these cyclotrons are built for the medical fraternity with applications including proton therapy and the production of medical radioisotopes for early diagnosis of various conditions. The conference programme for CYC2019 sought to do justice to the energetic development in the field of cyclotrons. A remarkable number of high quality contributions were received from the various facilities operating cyclotrons around the world. These varied from contributions investigating complex interactions using numerical methods to reports discussing novel ideas to extend the current capabilities of ageing cyclotron facilities.

A particular focus of this conference was to foster good relations between the various cyclotron institutes around the world, with the ultimate goal of leading to constructive international collaborations. Another important goal of the conference was to encourage participation amongst the many young and talented cohort of students. In this regard funding was received from various institutes and these institutes are graciously acknowledged for their valuable contribution. The participation of students was however a concern compared to the student participation at the previous cyclotron conference hosted in Zürich, Switzerland. The host institution of CYC2022 is strongly encouraged to put systems in place to reverse this trend of declining student participation.

Finally, I would like to thank all the delegates for attending the conference. It is inconceivable that the conference could have been such a huge success was it not for the distinguished scientific contributions and participation of the esteemed delegates. A huge word of thanks also needs to be expressed to the various committees (IOC, SPC and LOC). It is largely due to their diligent contribution that the conference was such an astounding success.



Lowry Conradie

IOC and SPC Chair for CYC2019