



Preface

The 11th International Conference on Mechanical Engineering Design of Synchrotron Radiation Equipment and Instrumentation (MEDSI) took place from July 26-29, 2021, in virtual format on the Whova virtual conference platform. This conference, known as MEDSI2020, was originally scheduled as an in-person conference on July 13-17, 2020, in downtown Chicago. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the in-person conference was postponed a year to July 26-30, 2021. However, with the ongoing pandemic and travel restrictions, we finally had to change the conference to a virtual format. This important biennial conference was hosted by the Advanced Photon Source (APS), Argonne National Laboratory in the United States. MEDSI provides a forum for engineers from facilities around the world to meet and share their experience. The conference topics include insertion devices, storage rings, front ends, beamlines, optics, end station instrumentation, and core technology development in vacuum, cryogenic, optics, and precision mechanics.

This is the first ever MEDSI virtual conference. We tried hard to make the virtual conference as interactive as it can be. We retained all original in-person conference elements including the industrial exhibition. We had about 440 registered attendees, the highest in MEDSI history, and many of the attendees were college students. We had 169 submitted abstracts (talks + posters). The conference featured 4 keynotes, 4 invited talks, 24 contributed talks, and 8 poster sessions with 15-18 posters at each session. We also had 22 industrial exhibitors/sponsors, and many of them had a very well-designed virtual exhibition booth filled with product information, photos, and video. Some exhibitors hosted live-streamed events. We had a great conference, and we learned to interact with each other virtually during this trying time.

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Local Organizing Committee, the Local and International Scientific Program Committee, the International Organizing Committee, all session chairs and co-chairs, and, of course, the industrial exhibitors and participants for all of their work that made this conference a success.

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