

ECM 101

The main focus of NSD in the last year was to join Nano9 and STM06 into a new conference series:

International Conference on Nanoscience and Technology ICN+T2006

Members of the NCCR Nanoscale Science and the University of Basel organized the international nano conference ICN&T 2006, which took place in Basel from July 30 to August 4 2006. At the meeting more than 1600 researchers gathered to mark the anniversaries 25 years of STM and 20 years of AFM and to celebrate the expansion and substantiation of nanoscience in general. The breadth of modern nanoscience and its application was underlined by 40 different topics with more than 500 presentations and 900 posters including 120 invited speakers. Participants from 55 nations experienced a real flavor of where nanoscience is evolving in its quest to amalgamate the still somewhat dominant mechanistic top-down approach with that of the bottom-up approach of self-assembly and self organization, which is so successfully implemented in the natural world.

For the public at large a fair called „Nanorama“ informed a interested audience and the participants by way of interactive displays and applications. Visions and general questions concerning Nanoscale research were discussed at length. The nanoTruck (road show vehicle) delivered fascinating insights into the nanoworld. More than 2.500 visitors marveled at these public events for the duration of the conference.

The ICN+T2006 was also accompanied by an international product exhibition with more than 50 companies, which are active in the field of nanoscale science. They presented their newest products on more than 1'000 m².

Undoubtedly there was a palpable, almost contagious, creative activity evident at the conference and the valuable contribution of all speakers and authors made ICN&T 2006 a comprehensive reflection of the scientific excitement in the field.

This is manifested in just two of numerous comments:

Prof. Rachel McKendry, University College London UCL :

' I just wanted to thank you very much for organising such a fantastic conference in Basel.. Our students and postdocs came back really fired up. They have spent hours discussing all the great talks they heard and were inspired to try lots of new experiments. The overwhelming conclusion is that it was the best meetings they ever been to.'

Tom Warwick, Veeco Instruments – Europe

European Director of Sales and Marketing

Main sponsor and vendor :

'This was a momentous, memorable and significant meeting. Thank you for using your charisma, reputation, delegation and whatever else for making this such an important scientific event....and also commercially helpful as well.

We were proud to be associated with this event'

The organisers appreciate the donations of all sponsors. Without their generous support the success of ICN+T2006 would not have been possible.

The idea of amalgamating the series of nano conferences with the series of STM conferences fell on fertile ground inasmuch as the two Steering Committees decided to institutionalize this conference in the future. The next ICNT's will take place in Stockholm (2007), USA (2008) and Beijing (2010).

