

Dear colleagues:

We are pleased to announce the joint 7th Iberian Vacuum Meeting (IVM-7) and 5th European Topical Conference on Hard Coatings (ETCHC-5) to be held in Caparica, Portugal, from June 22 to 25, 2008.

The Iberian Vacuum Meeting is the continuation of the series started in Braga in 1989, held alternatively in Spain and Portugal every 2 or 3 years and organized jointly by both, Portuguese and Spanish vacuum societies. It is a forum for all vacuum technology users, no matter the application.

The main objective of the European Topical Conference in Hard Coatings is to provide an opportunity to interchange knowledge and research experience in the hard coatings field. We invite scientists from all the European community as well as engineers from the industry community to attend this meeting.

These meetings will cover the topics:

- · Applied Surface Science;
- Surface Engineering;
- Thin Films;
- Electronic Materials & Processing;
- Nanometer Structures;
- · Surface Science:
- Plasma Science and Technique;
- · Hard Coatings (in parallel sessions).

The main topics of ETCHC-5 will overlap quite well the aim and objectives of the IVM-7. Therefore, common sessions will be arranged.

Venue will be at Caparica Campus of Universidade Nova de Lisboa, very close to the beaches of Costa da Caparica, 20 minutes far from Lisbon. In this season, the weather is usually perfect to enjoy the beauty of South Lisbon seaside landscape. Companions are most welcome, since they will have much to enjoy too.

A high level scientific program is being planned with many reputed scientists being invited to give talks on the state-of-art of science and technology in the above topics.

Students, both graduation and pos-graduation, are highly encouraged to be present and to present their work. Submitted papers will be published in a regular volume of **Vacuum** after peer review.

Further details will be gradually available in the meeting website:

http://www.soporvac.pt/riva7.

We hope that you will be able to join us for what promises to an exciting meeting, both scientifically and culturally, and we look forward to meet you at Caparica.

Chairmen

Orlando M.N.D Teodoro José L. de Segovía