

# Preface for the 14<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Concentrator Photovoltaic Systems (CPV-14)

The 14<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Concentrator Photovoltaic Systems (CPV-14) was held in Puertollano, Spain, during April 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, 2018. This is the third time that the conference takes place in Spain, after the 4<sup>th</sup> edition hosted by the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM) in El Escorial and the 8<sup>th</sup> edition organized by the Instituto de Sistemas Fotovoltaicos de Concentración (ISFOC) in Toledo.

The CPV-x conference series was born in 2002 to provide a meeting place for scientists, companies, developers, administration, students, and whoever interested in the CPV technology, providing a platform for the exchange of information and experiences in the CPV field. With this background, UPM as scientific host, and ISFOC as organizer, made a joint effort to continue the CPV-x conference series, with the help of the CPV Consortium, the owner of the conference, and the administrative support of PSE. We would like to thank all participants, presenters, supporters and committee members for their great support and trust in the conference, and particularly to our sponsors and exhibitors, without their support this conference would not have been possible.

The conference was hosted in the palace of congress La Central, an old thermoelectric plant, built in 1917 and recently reconverted for use as a conference center. La Central represents very well the spirit of Puertollano, one of the main industrial cities of Castilla-La Mancha and an example of transition from an economy highly dependent on fossil fuels to a land of opportunities for renewable energies. More than 120 participants from 22 countries joined the event. The exciting scientific and technical program, with 45 oral presentations and 55 posters, covered new achievements in the development of materials and high efficiency solar cells, the technological progress in the field of concentration systems, reliability and industrial challenges, trackers, optics, novel concepts and characterization of cells, modules and systems. Invited lectures were given by Johannes Wüllner (Fraunhofer ISE) with nine years of experience in the industrialization, operation and maintenance of CPV plants in Soitec Solar (former Concentrix Solar); and by Michihiko Takase, from Panasonic, who presented a novel Light Plastic Integrated Micro CPV Module.

Student prizes were awarded for the second time. Juan Francisco Martínez Sánchez from Fraunhofer ISE received the prize for Best Student Talk for his work "4-Terminal CPV Module Capable of Converting Global Normal Irradiance into Electricity" and Daria Freier, from Glasgow Caledonian University, was awarded with the Best Student Poster Presentation for her work "Design Method for Nonimaging Solar Photovoltaic Concentrators Using Genetic Algorithms".

We are now looking forward to CPV-15 which will be held from March 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 in Fes, Morocco.

Scientific Chair: Ignacio Antón

Chair Committee: Mathieu Baudrit, Geoffrey Kinsey, Andreas Bett, Karin Hinzer, Ben Depuydt

Program Chair: Myles Steiner

Publication Chair: Marc Steiner