



Parting Words from Outgoing SNF Editor-in-Chief, Horst Rogalla

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Information exchange on scientific issues has always been very important in the superconductivity community. Whereas for a long time the verbal information transfer in conferences and workshops as well as the information transfer in printed scientific journals was the predominant way to communicate, in the last 20 years communication via Internet became more and more important. This development has become quite evident for everybody during COVID-19 times – virtual conferences and virtual meetings is the new standard. SNF had already secured its place in this development: as a web-based News Forum. Founded roughly 17 years ago by Alex Braginski, the former “European Superconductivity News Forum” quickly found its place in the international superconductivity community as the

‘Superconductivity News Forum’ with the support of IEEE CSC and ESAS.

In July of 2015 I took over the Editor-in-Chief position from Alex Braginski, planning to hold this position for the next 5 years. So in 2021 it became high time to switch gears and intensively look for a successor. The search was very successful, and we had to make a difficult choice from several highly qualified scientists in the field of superconductivity as to whom would be the next Editor-in-Chief of the SNF. I am glad to report that my colleague and friend Xavier Obradors from the Institut de Ciència de Materials de Barcelona (ICMAB-CSIC), where he serves as director, agreed to take over this position. We are excited about the prospect to further strengthen the position of SNF in the community, this time with an internationally renowned scientist from the materials side of superconductivity. Starting at the end of 2021 with a 3-month transition period through the end of March 2022, Xavier took over as the new Editor-in-Chief.

Looking back on the plans that were developed during my first year as Editor-in-Chief, I see that many of these plans were successfully implemented and the position of SNF in the superconductivity community is very stable. The realization of some plans, especially to make SNF more attractive for young scientists and to fill the gender gap in the Editorial Office, remain incomplete providing opportunities for Xavier to further enhance the growth and standing of SNF in the community.

The years I served as Editor-in-Chief of the SNF went by quickly and I enjoyed every part of it. The work in the Editorial Office with the current Co-Editors Herbert Freyhardt, Kazuhiko Hayashi, Anthony Przybysz and especially our Team Manager and Managing Editor Jennifir McGillis was very pleasant and productive. The interaction with a huge number of colleagues from different areas of superconductivity, different parts of the world, and different lifetimes, were a major part of the journey and something I will never forget and will surely miss in the future. SNF would not exist without the cooperation of the International Editorial Board and the Associate Editors, especially not without the continuous support in funding, organization and especially in the stimulation of our activities. I would like to offer special thanks to Elie Track, John Przybysz, and Bruce Strauss (IEEE CSC); David Cardwell, Luca Bottura and Giampiero Pepe (ESAS); and from both worlds, my Italian friend and former IEEE CSC president, Antonio della Corte.

With best wishes for the new Editor-in-Chief and for the future of SNF,

Horst Rogalla