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Preface

External Review

All chapters were extensively peer reviewed by senior scientists working in nanophysics and related areas of nanoscience. Specialists reviewed the scientific content and nonspecialists ensured that the contributions were at an appropriate technical level. For example, a physicist may have been asked to review a chapter that dealt with biological applications, and a technologist to review a chapter on nanoelectronics.

Organization

The first four books (*Principles and Methods, Clusters and Fullerenes, Nanoparticles and Quantum Dots, and Nanowires*) describe theory and methods as well as the fundamental physics of nanoscale materials and structures. Although some topics may appear somewhat specialized, they have been included given their potential to lead to better technologies. The last three books (*Functional Nanomaterials, Nanoelectronics and Nanophotonics, and Nanomedicine and Nanorobotics*) deal with the technological applications of nanophysics. The chapters are written by authors from various fields of nanoscience in order to encourage new ideas for future fundamental research.

After the first book, which covers the general principles of theory and measurements of nanoscale systems, the organization roughly follows the historical development of nanoscience. Cluster scientists pioneered the field in the 1980s, followed by extensive

This handbook was initiated based on the idea that breakthroughs in nanotechnology require a firm grounding in the principles of nanophysics. It is intended to fulfill a dual purpose. On the one hand, it is designed to give an introduction to established fundamentals in the field of nanophysics. On the other hand, it leads the reader to the most significant recent developments in research. It provides a broad and in-depth coverage of the physics of nanoscale materials and applications. In each chapter, the aim is to offer a didactic treatment of the physics underlying the applications alongside detailed experimental results, rather than focusing on particular applications themselves.

The handbook also encourages communication across borders, aiming to connect scientists with disparate interests to begin