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Introduction

The conference on Nondestructive Characterization and Monitoring of Advanced Materials, Aerospace, Civil Infrastructure, and Transportation XI, held 25–29 March 2017 in Portland, Oregon, was a very successful part of the SPIE Smart Structures/NDE 2017 symposium. The conference was organized and chaired by Dr. H. Felix Wu, along with three co-chairs, Professor Tzu-Yang Yu, Dr. Andrew L. Gyekenyesi, and Professor Peter J. Shull.

We received a total of 110 abstracts; we scheduled 89 oral presentations and 19 poster papers. There were 15 sessions with one-day concurrent sessions, including a keynote presentation. The sessions were: Radar NDE/NDT; UAV-based Health Monitoring; Aerospace and Advanced Materials NDE/NDT; four Special Sessions in Transportation: DOE National Laboratories Presentations; Civil Infrastructures NDE/SHM; Ultrasonic/Acoustic Emission Technologies; Modeling and Simulation; Piezoelectric Sensing Technologies; Vision-based NDE/SHM; NDE/SHM for Wind Turbines, Tunnels, and Building Applications; and Other Sensing Technologies.

The keynote presentation and the four Special Sessions in Transportation were overwhelmingly successful; the conference room had a fully packed audience.

On behalf of the conference, I would like, in particular, to thank all the session chairs that fully committed to their roles of responsibility. I would also like to thank all oral and poster presenters that made our conference attractive and well received.

I am hoping that we will continue doing an extraordinary job in our next conference in 2018 in Denver, Colorado. Thank you.

H. Felix Wu