**INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF QUANTUM ELECTRONICS**

**40th Course: OPTICAL CHEMICAL SENSORS**

A NATO Advanced Study Institute

**ERICE-SICILY: 29 JULY - 10 AUGUST 2004**

Sponsored by the: C.N.R., European Union (lst Project NAIS)
- Italian Ministry of Education, University and Scientific Research
- Italian Society for Optics and Photonics (SIOf)
- Sicilian Regional Government
- University of Rome “La Sapienza”
- University of Rome “Tor Vergata”

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**PURPOSE OF THE COURSE**

Chemical sensing on optical basis is under extensive research all over the world and many optical chemical sensors are finding an increasing number of applications in industry, environmental monitoring, medicine, biomedicine and chemical analysis.

Objective of the advanced Course (the fourth in the framework of ASCOS - Advanced Study Course on Optical Chemical Sensors, for more information look at the web site www.ascos.org) is to bring together bright young (future) scientists, coming from all imaginable fields of expertise related to optical chemical sensors, to learn from selected tutors and from each other in an appropriate atmosphere. The Course covers all the main optical chemical sensor technologies and related fields (spectroscopy, sensor schemes, material sciences, microsystems, biosensors, immobilisation techniques, chemometrics, sensor development, applications of optical chemical sensors in industry, environmental protection, medicine, analytical chemistry and in public security and provides a platform to exchange ideas and experience. The objective is accomplished through teaching theory and basics on a level every participant can follow and then making the participants apply the knowledge gained.

**APPLICATIONS**

Persons wishing to attend the Course should write to:

Dr. Francesco BALDINI
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Specifying:

i) full name(s), address, age, nationality;  
ii) academic qualifications and degree;  
iii) present position and place of work;  
iv) current research activity;  
vi) list of publications.

**F. BALDINI - J. HOMOLA**  
DIRECTORS OF THE COURSE

**A.N. CHESTER - S. MARTELLUCCI**  
DIRECTORS OF THE SCHOOL

**A. ZICHICHI**  
EMFSCS PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRE

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**POETIC TOUCH**

According to legend, Erice, son of Venus and Neptune, founded a small town on top of a mountain (750 metres above sea level) more than three thousand years ago. The founder of modern history — i.e. the recording of events in a methodic and chronological sequence as they really happened without reference to mythical causes — the great Thucydides (~460 B.C.), writing about events connected with the conquest of Troy (~1183 B.C.) said: “After the fall of Troy some Trojans on their escape from the Achaei arrived in Sicily by boat and as they settled near the border with the Sicilians all together they were named Elymians: their towns were Segesta and Erice.” This inspired Virgil to describe the arrival of the Trojan royal family in Erice and the burial of Anchise, by his son Enea, on the coast below Erice. Homer (~1000 B.C.), Theocritus (~300 B.C.), Polymius (~200 B.C.), Virgil (~50 B.C.), Horace (~20 B.C.), and others have celebrated this magnificent spot in Sicily in their poems. During seven centuries (XIII-XIX) the town of Erice was under the leadership of a local oligarchy, whose wisdom ensured a long period of cultural development and economic prosperity which in turn gave rise to the many churches, monasteries and private palaces which you see today.

In Erice you can admire the Castle of Venus, the Cyclopean Walls (~800 B.C.), and the Gothic Cathedral (~1300 A.D.). Erice is at present a mixture of ancient and medieval architecture. Other masterpieces of ancient civilization are to be found in the neighbourhood: at Motya (Phoenician), Segesta (Elymaian), and Selinunte (Greek). On the Aegadian Islands — theatre of the decisive naval battle of the first Punic War (264-241 B.C.) — suggestive necropolis and paleolithic vestiges are still visible: the grottos of Favignana, the carvings and murals of Levanzo.

Splendid beaches are to be found at San Vito Lo Capo, Scopello, and Cornino, and a wild and rocky coast around Monte Cofano: all at less than one hour’s drive from Erice.

Registration details and more information about the Course can be found at the website: http://www.ascos.org

More information about the other activities of the Ettore Majorana Centre can be found on the WWW at the following address: http://www.cssem.infn.it

**PLEASE NOTE**

Participants must arrive in Erice on July 29, not later than 5 p.m.