

# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Photo taken at mockup lab of TPS storage ring.

**A**s I read the Activity Report of year 2008/2009, I am impressed to see that many research highlights are contributed by young authors using both TLS and SPring-8 beamlines. I receive a very positive message that a new generation of users is extant and will be ready to use the forthcoming TPS. They will become an important workforce to develop future science in Taiwan.

In 2008, the TLS has delivered more than 5700 hours of user time with MTBF (mean time between failures) greater than 110 hours, which sets a new performance record for the machine. On the user side we saw a continuous trend of growth of the user body from 1,683 in 2007 to 2,386 in 2008. For the organization to be more receptive with convenient user support and pursuit of scientific frontiers, we have restructured the original Beamline and Research Divisions into Experimental Facility and Scientific Research Divisions in mid 2008.

The year 2008 also set a critical stage for the TPS project. The important milestones achieved include the approval of a construction budget in January by the Legislative Yuan, the completion of a site plan in May by the architects, the approval of the Environmental Protection Agency in December, and, most importantly, the completion of a conceptual design book for the accelerator. The civil planning team was able to preserve two beautiful green acres and is working on green construction for the new buildings. The accelerator design book was highly praised by the Machine Advisory Committee for its detailed and thorough job. The project has proceeded with the procurement of the linac, the RF transmitter, and the cryogenic system at the end of 2008. For the future experimental facilities, the planning was launched with a call for a Letter of Interest for the phase-I beamline construction in August 2008 and reviewed by the Science Advisory Committee in January 2009. The TPS project team deserves much applause for their accomplishments in 2008.

I personally feel grateful to have the opportunity to serve NSRRC during this exciting period and facilitate institutional changes. The impressive accomplishments of NSRRC in 2008 are largely a credit to my very talented and dedicated colleagues, and to our user community for their continuous strong support.

Keng S. Liang  
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