

Message from the Director

It was a challenging year, 2020, with uncertainty in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic that has altered the world order, the way we live and communicate in an unprecedented way. Most travel, conferences and face-to-face activities inevitably came to a halt or were postponed indefinitely. Thanks to the swift response and tight border control imposed by Central Epidemic Command Center (CECC), NSRRC was nonetheless able to maintain its focus on scientific advancements and outreach.

Despite the pandemic, 2020 proved to be an extraordinary year for NSRRC as we reaped tremendous progress, 12.3% increase in number of SCI publications that used NSRRC facilities. The average impact factor of the published research results has significantly increased by 17.4% over year 2020, and our average citations of the past five years have increased two-fold compared with those of domestic peers. All these accomplishments are attributed to the relentless efforts of our users and colleagues. The Coronavirus has not thwarted us, instead it has brought together the best minds and collaborations from various research teams for the benefit of all.

As NSRRC makes continuous progress toward the completion of TPS phase-II beamlines, we have restructured new beamlines with a brightness increased by 3–4 orders of magnitude, compared with that of TLS beamlines, to fulfill the research needs of users. Various memoranda of understanding (MOU) were signed with renowned international and domestic research facilities during the year, through which NSRRC steadily expanded its participation in and contributions to the global community of science innovation. NSRRC achieved the renewal of MOU and agreements with RIKEN and JASRI (Japan) for joint research on advanced materials and life science, with JINA (Russia) on cooperative projects in the area of photon and neutron sources for advanced-materials/bioscience and accelerator development, and with ANSTO (Australia) to expand the collaboration on neutron science. Industrial applications based on the technology developed in-house also expanded greatly during 2020 with contracts signed by established manufacturers. These milestones not only boosted the visibility of NSRRC but also enhanced our scientific connections to the world.

Over the decades we have passed through challenges and overcome obstacles, but we are confident in confronting whatever the future holds. NSRRC will continue to deliver quality light to users and engage in pioneering research. In the years to come, let's work together to explore the frontier of science and witness the realization of innovative ideas at NSRRC's bright light sources.



Gwo-Huei Luo
Director