

Preface

We invite research teams of all light sources on the globe to share the thrill of NSRRC's progress and accomplishments in year 2020, presented in this issue of our Activity Report. With the number of scientific publications spiking to record levels, we are all proud of this organization's achievements.

However, it has been more challenging, to say the least, for the editors to decide which research publications to be included in this Activity Report, because of space limitations in the printed edition. As a result, 34 reports for Research Highlights are picked with the notion to offer readers a comprehensive overview of the research trends, breakthroughs and new projects undertaken in NSRRC in 2020, including some compelling high-profile scientific discoveries highlighted on the covers of journals. These reports are classified by field of research, including Physics and Materials Science, Chemical Science, Soft Matter, Life Science, Energy Science, Environmental and Earth Science, and Neutron Science. Incorporated simultaneously in this issue are eight reports on the Facility Status regarding the operational status of NSRRC's dual accelerator facilities TLS and TPS, accelerator technology development, introductions to the groundbreaking features of selected TPS phase-II beamlines, and the conceptual design of the upcoming TPS phase-III beamlines; Facts & Figures for the year-round statistics of NSRRC as well as lists of publications included in the Appendix. The broad scope of these reports not only exhibits the productive capabilities of NSRRC but also reveals its contribution and commitment to research and development in the scientific communities.

I am grateful to the editors for their superb efforts and assistance during the editing process—which can be rather draining at times. My sincere appreciation also extends to all contributing authors of the papers for their enthusiasm and dedication, which have made this 2020 issue a reality. Hopefully, readers will find it informative and thought-inspiring, and infuse new insights into the future research.



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