

Preface

The GMe Forum continues a long series of seminars on microelectronics technology which have been organized by the Society for Micro- and Nanoelectronics (*Gesellschaft für Mikro- und Nanoelektronik – GMe*; originally “*Gesellschaft für Mikroelektronik*”) since its foundation in the mid-1980s. The original seminars addressed a purely academic audience. The first GMe Forum in its current form had taken place at the Vienna University of Technology in 2001. The GMe Forum is designed to appeal to university researchers as well as to more application-oriented participants, particularly from Austrian industrial enterprises and governmental organizations. Most of the oral presentations are reviews presented by top-level speakers from international industry and research facilities. The university institutions supported by the GMe also present their results, partly as oral presentations but mostly as posters.

The Society for Micro- and Nanoelectronics is mainly financed by the Federal Ministry for Traffic, Innovation and Technology (*Bundesministerium für Verkehr, Innovation und Technologie*). Its goal is to promote micro- and nanoelectronics research and technology at Austrian universities with the main aim to stimulate the transfer of know-how to the Austrian industry and by carrying out pilot projects in the GMe supported cleanroom facilities. The relatively small budget of the GMe does not allow full sponsoring of research projects. Nevertheless, the GMe supplements other research funding sources by providing contributions for creating and maintaining state of the art laboratory infrastructure.

The main goal of the GMe in recent years was the support of the two cleanroom centers at the Vienna University of Technology and at the Johannes Kepler University Linz, respectively, where internationally competitive technological equipment has been made available to researchers, students, and industry customers.

We hope that the proceedings will promote the impact of the GMe Forum 2008, and that they will contribute to an even better international cooperation of the Austrian micro- and nanoelectronics research at academic institutions and in industry.

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President of the GMe

Ao.Univ.Prof. Dr. Karl RIEDLING
Secretary General of the GMe