

ANNOUNCEMENT

By courtesy of the Newsletter Editor I would like to announce the intention to set up a section of my website devoted to *The History of Rotational Spectroscopy*.

The plan is to create a repository of clearly attributed material concerning the aspects of this field that are not immortalised in scientific publications. This would include, in particular, illustrated information on the people, research groups, groundbreaking equipment and investigations. The intention is primarily educational: to provide an easily accessible background to this field and to convey a sense of its history to our newcomers. At the same time it is a chance to preserve precious material stamped with the 'human touch' that is largely lost on evolution of research at any particular institution.

I've made some consultations of this idea with several pre- and post-retirees in the field and have been very encouraged by their response. It is also this group who are the main addressees of this letter. Please send me short (or long) write-ups on the people, the labs, liberally captioned pictures, and all forms of scannable or scanned material, before they disappear forever.

Excellent biographies of some of our prominent predecessors (Gordy, Flygare) have been published, and I would like to set up a list of such publications, including Festschrift papers. Any preprints or obtained permissions of the original publishers that would allow direct Internet publication of such material would be most welcome.

The website will only be as good as the contributed material so that I am very much counting on the community response. I am also looking forward to comments and suggestions, especially at this early stage of launching the project. It is clear that I will be able to devote only a limited amount of time to this activity so I envisage putting up material almost as received, subject to a minimum amount of editing for consistency. Part of the plan is also to base the form of the published material on the archive PDF/A format in order to ensure its electronic longevity.

Please direct all electronic correspondence on these matters to the new email address set up for this purpose: prospe@ifpan.edu.pl

I would also be grateful if you could circulate this information to those whom you feel may be potential contributors but are not recipients of the Newsletter.



Zbyszek Kisiel

address for paper correspondence:

Prof. Zbigniew Kisiel
Institute of Physics, Polish Academy of Sciences
Al. Lotnikow 32/46, 02-668 Warszawa