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## Editorial

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**Biographical notes:** Juan José Sáenz is Ikerbasque Research Professor at the Donostia International Physics Center (DIPC) in San Sebastian (Spain). He got his PhD at Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM) in 1987 and completed his postdoctoral research at IBM-Zurich. He was Professor in the Condensed Matter Physics Department at UAM until 2015. His research interests include theoretical work on nano-optics, optical forces, modelling of scanning probe microscopies (SPM) and wave transport and molecular imaging in complex media. He is member of the Optical Society of America (OSA) and Co-Organizer of the Trends in Nanotechnology (TNT) conference series.

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This special issue of the “International Journal of Nanotechnology” presents representative contributions describing the main topics covered at the 16th “*Trends in Nanotechnology*” (TNT2015) International Conference, held in Toulouse (France), September 07–11, 2015.

The conference series “Trends in Nanotechnology” has become one of the most important meeting points in the nanotechnology field: it provides fresh organisation ideas, brings together well known speakers, and promotes a suitable environment for discussions, exchanging ideas, enhancing scientific and personal relations among participants. TNT2015, a successful consequence of a coordinated effort among several organising institutions, was organised in a similar way to the prior TNT conferences, with a scientific programme including 44 Invited/Keynote speakers

covering a wide spectrum of nanoscience and nanotechnology research. In 2015, more than 200 scientists worldwide attended this event and contributed with 94 oral contributions and 73 posters, stimulating discussions about their most recent research.

TNT2015 was held in large part owing to the overwhelming success of earlier TNT Nanotechnology Conferences. This high-level scientific meeting series aims to present a broad range of current research in nanoscience and nanotechnology worldwide, as well as initiatives such as MANA/NIMS, CIC nanoGUNE, IBEC, DIPC, ICN2, etc. TNT events have demonstrated that they are particularly effective in transmitting information and promoting interaction and new contacts among workers in this field.

Furthermore, this event offered visitors, exhibitors and sponsors an ideal opportunity to interact with each other. Last year, a Graphene one-day Symposium was also organised within TNT2015 in collaboration with ICN2 (Spain). This Graphene Day entailed a plenary session during the morning and the afternoon session was divided in two tracks: Graphene science driven contributions including Graphene in ‘Grand Sud-Ouest’ region (France) and Graphene driven applications Keynotes.

Additionally, a ‘Nanoarchitectonics’ session, organised in collaboration with MANA/NIMS (Japan), and a ‘Photonics/Plasmonics/Optoelectronics’ session, organised in collaboration with IFIMAC (Spain), took place during the conference.

One of the main objectives of the Trends in Nanotechnology Conference is to provide a platform where young researchers can present their latest work and also interact with high-level scientists. For this purpose, the Organising Committee provides every year travel grants and awards for students.

TNT is therefore now one of the premier European conferences devoted to nanoscale science and technology.

The following Scientific Institutions, Companies and Government Agencies supported TNT2015: Phantoms Foundation, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM), ICEX España Exportación e Inversiones – Invest in Spain, NIMS (Nanomaterials Laboratory) and MANA (International Center for Materials and Nanoarchitectonics), Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia (IBEC), European Physical Society (EPS), SO Toulouse, SICOVAL, DIAGORA, IfiMAC – Condensed Matter Physics Center, Scienta Omicron, AIRBUS, CNano GSO, NEXT and INL (International Iberian Nanotechnology Laboratory).

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We invite readers of this special issue to join us in Dresden (Germany), where the “Trends in Nanotechnology” 2017 edition will take place (<http://www.tntconf.org>).