

Synchrotron Radiation News



ISSN: 0894-0886 (Print) 1931-7344 (Online) Journal homepage: http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/gsrn20

2008 Beam Instrumentation Workshop

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To cite this article: Fernando Sannibale (2008) 2008 Beam Instrumentation Workshop, Synchrotron Radiation News, 21:6, 14-14, DOI: <u>10.1080/08940880802555350</u>

To link to this article: http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/08940880802555350

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MEETING REPORTS

2008 Beam Instrumentation Workshop

BIW08, the 13th edition of the Beam Instrumentation Workshop (BIW), took place at Lake Tahoe, California, on May 4–7, 2008. It was jointly sponsored by three divisions of Berkeley Lab: Accelerator and Fusion Research, the Advanced Light Source (ALS), and Engineering. BIW is a biannual international conference on beam diagnostics and instrumentation for accelerators and is probably the most important in the field together with its European counterpart, DIPAC, which alternates with BIW in the odd years.

The conference typically attracts about 120 attendees and during its four-day duration focuses on design principles and engineering issues associated with a wide variety of equipment and measurement techniques. This year, BIW offered a number of presentations in the form of invited and contributed talks, a poster session, and informal discussions to promote the exchange of ideas and issues between scientists, engineers, and representatives of companies operating in the field. Special invited tutorial talks served as an introduction to relevant topics to field beginners and represented an effective way to stimulate the interest of young people in the field. In addition, a vendor exhibition allowed participants to get updated information on related commercial products.

For the first time in the history of BIW, in this edition financial assistance to undergraduate and graduate students who wanted to participate in the event was offered. A number of students benefited from the possibility of participating in the workshop, and in turn made a solid contribution to the local organization as well.

The Faraday Cup Award, intended to recognize and encourage innovative achievements in the field of particle accelerator beam instrumentation, was also presented during the workshop. The award consists of a monetary prize and a certificate, and the BIW program committee is solely responsible for the selection of the recipient (http://www.faraday-cup.com/).

This year, the award (in its 10th edition) was presented to Dr. Suren Arutunian of the Yerevan Physics Institute of Armenia, for the invention, construction, and successful testing of the diagnostic system "A Vibrating Wire Scanner."

Fernando Sannibale of the ALS Accelerator Physics Group was the BIW08 chair, and the local organizing committee was coordinated by Joy Kono of the ALS.

More information on BIW08 and its program (including PDF files of the presentations)



Left to right: Julien Bergoz (Faraday Cup Award sponsor), Suren Arutunian (2008 Faraday Cup Award recipient), and Fernando Sannibale (BIW08 chair).

can be found at the conference Web site at http://www-als.lbl.gov/biw08/.

The proceedings of the conference will be published on the Joint Accelerator Conferences Website (JACoW), the free-access database for particle accelerator conferences, at http://accelconf.web.cern.ch/Accel Conf/. ■

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BIW08 conference attendees pose for a group photo outside the Granlibakken Conference Center and Lodge near Lake Tahoe, California.