

Welcome to Prof. Joachim Bill as a new editor for IJMR

In March 2020, the editorial team comprising Dr. Sergij Divinski, Prof. Dr. Ferdinand Haider and Prof. Dr. Guido Schmitz accepted the responsibility of organizing the peer reviewing of the *International Journal of Materials Research*. It was, and frankly still is, a difficulty to cope with the many tasks that have to be performed promptly. We apologize to all those we may have disappointed with too long delays and will work hard to even better organize the editorial process.

With regard to the article submissions of the first half year, we noticed that our expertise should better be broadened towards the significant interests in materials chemistry and biomaterials. Therefore, we are glad to announce that Prof. Joachim Bill of the University of Stuttgart has joined the editorial team in August 2020. In future, he will replace Sergij Divinski.

Joachim Bill studied Chemistry at the University of Gießen. He joined the powder metallurgical laboratory at the Max Planck Institute of Metals Research in Stuttgart in 1990, where he experienced the decisive steps of his scientific career (PhD 1993, Habilitation 2001). First being interested in ceramics and ceramic powders in general, he later focused on biomineralization and biomaterials in particular. Joachim Bill is well known to many colleagues in Germany, in particular after he became the speaker of the

DFG priority program “Generation of multifunctional inorganic materials by molecular bionics”. Today, he heads the department of Bioinspired Materials at the Institute of Materials Science in Stuttgart.

As a research journal of high quality, IJMR fully relies on the peer reviewing concept. Therefore, prompt processing of the submissions depends on the willingness of expert colleagues to read and comment on the manuscripts. I would like to thank the many colleagues who have helped us with this service in the past months. But on the other hand, I can frankly say that finding reviewers is the most difficult job in our editorial business. Therefore, I would like to take the opportunity to appeal to all readers and authors of IJMR, especially to the more expertized colleagues among us. If we believe in the peer reviewing concept, we have to support this process by volunteering to function as a reviewer for IJMR from time to time. Not at least, it is also an important service we owe to the younger colleagues. A reasonably detailed and commented review is an important means of knowledge transfer from the older to the younger generation.

Guido Schmitz (Editor-in-Chief)

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