LT25 FINAL REPORT

Venue and program

The 25th International Conference on Low Temperature Physics (LT25) was hosted by the Kamerlingh Onnes Laboratorium of the Leiden Institute of Physics and held in the RAI Convention Center in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 6-13 August 2008. It was the second time that the Kamerlingh Onnes Laboratory had the privilege of organizing an LT conference. In 1958, at LT6, 50 years of liquid helium temperatures were commemorated; in 2008 we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the remarkable achievements of Heike Kamerlingh Onnes and his collaborators in Leiden. In 1958 there were 323 participants. In 2008 we registered 1390 people. This large participation required adequate conference and housing facilities. These could not be found in Leiden, but were conveniently available in Amsterdam.

The triennial International Low Temperature Conferences are the most important global meetings that bring together the international scientific community in the broad field of Low Temperature Physics. Because the meeting is held only every third year the plenary and half plenary talks generally provided an overview of important new discoveries over the last few years, whereas the short oral presentations are mainly focused on very recent developments. Since the field is broad, embracing a large section of condensed matter physics, the program is divided into five parallel program lines:

A. Quantum Gases, Fluids and Solids,
B. Superconductivity,
C. Quantum Phase Transitions and Magnetism,
D. Electronic Quantum Transport in Condensed Matter,
E. Cryogenic Techniques and Applications.

Each program line had its own program committee headed by a program director.

The scientific program included 194 oral and 1479 poster presentations. From the oral presentations 11 were full plenary lectures and 22 were half plenary. The first few plenary lectures on the opening day were given by the winners of the London Prize and the Simon Prize. The daily program started with 6 half plenary lectures, followed by five parallel oral sessions both before and after the lunch break, and was concluded by the poster sessions (five sessions in total). Two special evening sessions were organized to address (very) recent developments. In the first place there was a *romp* session about the surprising discovery of high temperature superconductivity in iron-based compounds with 7 rounds of about 5 short presentations concluded with 10 min. discussion each. In a parallel session the concern about the demand for and price of liquid helium was discussed in relation to future trends in cryocoolers which may considerably reduce the need for liquid helium. In an outreach evening session, open to the general public, we had two distinguished speakers.

The centenary of liquid helium was celebrated at the conference excursion to Leiden on Sunday August 10. The number of participants had to be limited to 643 by lack of space, but many others went later on their own initiative. They could attend 3 historical

lectures in the former Kamerlingh Onnes Laboratory, and visit several museums where special expositions related to “100 years of liquid helium” were arranged.

The conference dinner in the center of Amsterdam on Monday evening was attended by 555 people.

Organization

The conference was organized by the organizing committee composed of Chairman Peter Kes, Secretary Reyer Jochemsen (both Leiden University), Treasurer Fons de Waele (Eindhoven University of Technology), and Program Chair Hans Mooij (Delft University of Technology). They regularly met during the preparation for the conference.

In preparing the program we experienced a problem concerning the timing of the selection procedures for the various awards and the invitation of plenary speakers. In the format of the recent LT conferences the recipients of the London and Simon Prizes get the opportunity to speak in the plenary session on the first day. The other plenary speakers are selected by the program committee and speak on the first and last days. They should represent a good balance between the five program lines and be well distributed over the various subjects. Plenary speakers are extremely important for attracting participants, but they usually have very busy agendas and should be invited well in time. It would therefore be very convenient if in the future the committees for the London and Simon Prizes could make their decisions known to the LT organizing committees before the end of the year preceding the LT conferences.

Nevertheless, in November/December 2007 most plenary speakers were selected in a meeting of program directors and organizing committee after advices had been collected from the advisory board. A second round of invitations for (half) plenary speakers and half of the oral presentations went out in the first months of 2008 after strong and vivid discussions within the respective program committees. At the end of April 2008 the almost complete program committee came together in Leiden to select the remainder of oral presentations from the submitted abstracts and to distribute the oral sessions over the various categories in proportion to the distribution of submitted abstracts. This meeting turned out to be extremely useful. We were lucky that we were right in time to decide about the organization of special evening sessions about the superconducting FeAs compounds and the situation regarding helium and the upcoming technological solutions.

Apart from this meeting in April and the regular meetings of the organizing committee all correspondences and communications were done electronically:

1. An **internet site** was established about two years before the conference started and was constantly updated.
2. A first **announcement** was sent out by e-mail to 6,500 potential participants about 16 months before the conference. This list was generated by combining the lists that were made available by the organizers of LT24, the QFS series, the M2S of 2006, and various other sources. The updated list has been sent to the organizers of LT26 in Beijing.
3. The **registration** was a two-step process: one had to first make a profile on line resulting in a personal LT identification number (LTIN) and a password to get access to a personal space, to be used for submitting and handling

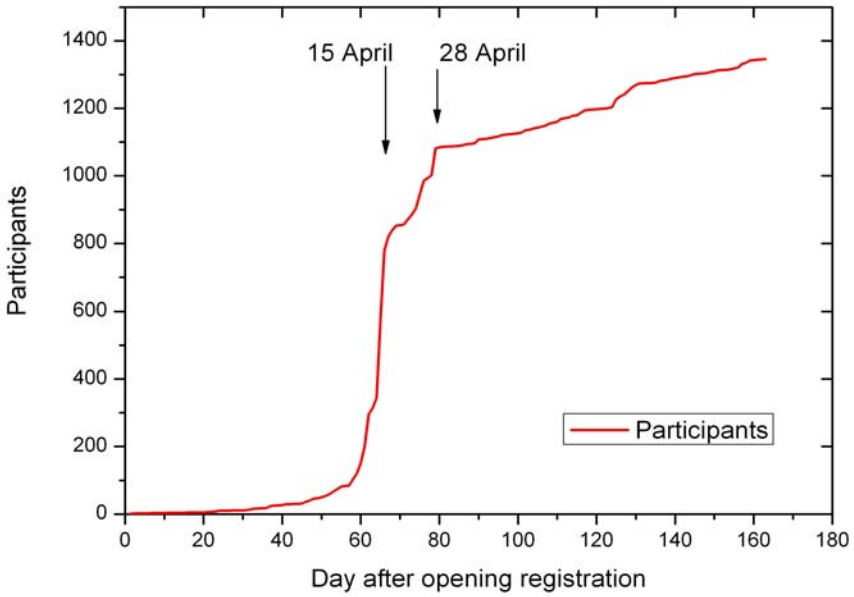
abstracts and papers. This part of the procedure was managed by LT25 and will be made available to the organizers of LT26. With the LTIN one could enter the **payment** site which was managed by Summit. We found the Summit restriction to credit card payments only, too rigid and very inconvenient. We underestimated the number of people that could not pay by credit card for whatever reason.

4. All further announcements, the registration, abstract and paper submission, and communications regarding program and practical matters were done electronically, mostly by email or via internet. The **program book** was still printed and handed out on site to the participants upon registration. They also received an electronic version on a USB stick, which contained all submitted (but not yet refereed) papers received before July 15, 2008 as well.

Attendance

In view of the attendance of the last few LT conferences (see Previous LT Conferences) we anticipated that 1200 people would be a reasonable number for this centennial conference. Eventually we registered 1390 participants and 114 accompanying persons, which was well beyond expectation. In the appendix "Conference Statistics" a full account is given of (female) participants and speakers per country. Very remarkable was the large delegation from Japan: 481 people, among them 129 graduate students.

It is interesting for future organizers to see how the registration proceeded with time after the 2nd announcement went out on February 20, 2008 (day '0' in the figure below). 'April 15' denotes the original deadline for the reduced early registration fee, which for several reasons had to be shifted to April 28, 2008. The correlation is evident.



Female Participation

Several of our sponsors actively promote the role of women in physics and wanted to know how LT25 had been doing regarding this issue. Some relevant data are:

Female participation: 125 out of 1390.
Female members of the program committee: 4 out of 28.
Female speakers (half) plenary: 3 out of 38.
Female speakers oral presentations: 7 out of 161.
Female chairs: 4 out of 56.

There is clearly room for improvement at the LT conferences to come.

Abstracts, manuscripts, and Proceedings

All material connected with the printed results of LT25 was processed electronically. LaTeX was the standard and didn't cause much trouble. All abstracts were screened to check whether they fitted into the LT program and small (LaTeX) errors were corrected. The 1625 accepted abstracts were grouped according to the program classification: A: 323, B: 526, C: 404, D: 276, and E: 96, about the same distribution as at previous LT conferences, e.g. LT22 in Helsinki. Of the submitted abstracts eventually 1479 were presented in the five poster sessions, almost equally distributed as follows: A: 311, B: 463, C: 370, D: 249 and E: 86.

The decision to split the Proceedings into two parts had been taken in 2007 in consultation with the Chair of C5 and the IUPAP. The reason behind this decision is that in order to optimize impact factors it has become common policy of publishing companies to publish proceedings of big conferences in special on-line (open access) journals. In addition, they are eager to publish the invited presentations in special issues of their regular journals.

As publisher of the Proceedings we choose for IOP Publishing, because of their professional offer and the reasonable price. All contributed papers were reviewed and after acceptance published in *Journal of Physics: Conference Series*. This is an open access journal freely available on internet. The above classification was used to group the papers appearing in the on-line part of the Proceedings. From the 877 submitted papers 826 were accepted, 41 rejected, and 10 were withdrawn. In a special issue of *Journal of Physics: Condensed Matter* 23 invited papers appeared, among them the contributions of the London Prize recipients. The papers were subject to the journal's peer review policy and standards. The special issue is made available on-line for a period of 1 year from publication, which is till 1 April, 2010. Reprints of the special issue were ordered by 398 participants.

Financial Assistance

There were 229 applications for financial assistance submitted coming from 74 students, 23 postdocs, 123 researchers and professors, and 9 others from 31 countries. The requested amount was € 200,750 (€ 88,250 for waivers of the registration fee and € 112,500 for travel or subsistence). This was four times the available budget. The Financial Assistance Committee made a selection guided by criteria, such as the recent scientific achievements of the applicant in Low Temperature Physics, or the promotion of attendance by physicists from emerging countries and by young researchers other then graduate students. Eventually 84 people (19 students, 11 postdocs, 52 professors and research staff, and 2 others) got support ranging between 250 € and 850 €. They mainly received a waiver of the registration fee and in some cases also some support for travelling expenses. Because of the severe reduction between requested and received support some people were unfortunately not able to attend. We think that this could have been avoided if the institutions, from which many individual requests were submitted, would have set up some internal ranking system.

Exhibition

The exhibition was about the same size as the one at LT24, with 25 booths for 22 companies. In view of other big conferences organized within a week of LT25, like the ASC in Chicago and the ICEC-ICMC in South Korea, which usually attract many exhibitors, this is not a bad result. The exhibition area was planned to be close to the poster area and very near to the pantries where free sodas and beer could be obtained.

Financial Account

	Income				Expenses		
	Item	**Estimate**	**Result**		**Item**	**Estimate**	**Result**
1	Registration	540.000	636.162	6	RAI (rooms, poster boards, AVE, catering, exhibit, wireless)	320.000	345.624
2	Exhibit	50.000	47.465	7	Registration, printed material, mem-sticks, conf. bags	90.000	60.848
3	Proceedings	20.000	9.900	8	Proceedings (editorial office, publisher)	100.000	73.488
4	IUPAP	15.000	14.076	9	Welcome reception, excursion, conference dinner	50.000	57.526
5	Sponsors	85.000	158.741	10	Speakers support	30.000	26.938
				11	Students support and financial assistance	80.000	121.100
				12	Organization, prog. committee abstract processing	40.000	60.871
				13	“Freezing Physics”	0	15.000
				14	Support LT26	0	19.899
				15	Support London Prize	0	10.000
				16	Support QFS 2009 and 2010	0	10.000
				17	Reservation “2011”	0	64.280
				18	Miscellaneous	0	770
	Total income	**710.000**	**866.344**		**Total expenditures**	**710.000**	**866.344**

Ad 1, 11: 341 graduate students received a discount of € 200 on the registration fee, amounting to € 68.200 which is incorporated in items 1 and 11.
Ad 7, 8, and 12: These items can be considered as ‘communicating vessels’, originally estimated at € 230.000; realized for € 195.207.
Ad 13: This book was sponsored by the Science Faculty of Leiden University. The amount of € 15.000 is also included in ‘Sponsors’ (5).
Ad 14, 15, 16, 17: A surplus of € 104.179 was realized due to the much larger income from sponsors and the larger number of participants (1390 instead of 1200). More participants also means more costs, but less than proportional, e.g. many people only stayed for part of the conference and no extra expenses were required for the venue. The average attendance was estimated to be about 80%.
The organizing committee decided to use part of the surplus to add to the endowment of the London Prize, and to support the LT26 and QFS 2009 and QFS 2010 conferences. Because Dutch Low Temperature Institutes sponsored generously about half of the remainder is reserved for stimulating the attendance of Dutch graduate students to LT26 in 2011. The other half is reserved for support of activities in 2011 when the low temperature community will celebrate ‘100 Years of Superconductivity’.

Leiden, August 7, 2009:
Peter Kes, Chairman LT25

Additional Information

LT25 COMMITTEES

Organizing Committee

Chairman	Peter Kes	Leiden University	Netherlands
Secretary	Reyer Jochemsen	Leiden University	Netherlands
Treasurer	Fons de Waele	Eindhoven University of Technology	Netherlands
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Jingtao Liang, Technical Institute of Physics and Chemistry, CAS, Beijing, China
Jukka Pekola, Low Temperature Laboratory, Helsinki Univ of Technology, Finland

Special Evening Session on He Shortage and Dry Solutions:
Fons de Waele, Eindhoven University of Technology, Netherlands

Romp Session on Oxypnictide Superconductors:
Laura Greene, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, USA
Setsuko Tajima, Osaka University, Japan

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Vitaly	Shumeiko	Chalmers University of Technology, Göteborg	Sweden
Ladislav	Skrbek	Charles University, Prague	Czeck Repl
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Frank	Steglich	Max Planck Institute for Chemical Physics of Solids, Dresden	Germany
Raivo	Stern	National Institue of Chemical Physics and Biophysics, Tallinn	Estonia
Henk	Stoof	Utrecht University, Utrecht	Netherlands
Sandro	Stringari	Universita' di Trento, Trento	Italy
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CONFERENCE STATISTICS

LT25 was attended by 1390 participants from 44 countries (see break down below). This number includes 341 graduate students and the representatives of the 23 exhibitors. Distributions of the 125 female participants and the 199 speakers are given in bold and italic numbers, respectively.

Algeria	3	**1**		Kroatia	2	**1**	
Argentina	4	**2**		Mexico	4	**1**	
Australia	4			Moldavia	1	**1**	
Austria	9	**1**	*2*	Netherlands	85	**8**	*18*
Belgium	8	**1**		New Sealand	2	**1**	
Brazil	12			Norway	1		
Canada	17	**2**	*6*	Poland	10	**2**	*1*
China	10	**2**	*1*	Portugal	1		
Cyprus	1			Romenia	9		
Denmark	1		*1*	Russia	50	**8**	*6*
Estland	3			Scotland	1		
Finland	35	**3**	*1*	Slowakia	13	**5**	
France	58	**7**	*15*	Spain	15	**4**	
Georgia	3			Sweden	17	**3**	*2*
Germany	115	**16**	*21*	Swiss	24	**1**	*8*
Greek	3	**1**		Taiwan	35	**2**	
India	15	**1**	*1*	Tsjechia	8		*1*
Israel	22		*6*	Tunesia	2		
Italy	14	**3**	*2*	Ukrain	21	**4**	*1*
Japan	481	**20**	*44*	UK	104	**10**	*13*
Kazacstan	2	**1**		UAE	1		
Korea	21	**1**		USA	143	**12**	*44*

SPONSORS AND EXHIBITORS

Organizing a conference of the size of LT25 is a million dollar business. We therefore are very grateful for the considerable support we obtained in various forms from the agencies, institutions and companies that are listed below.

Leiden Institute of Physics
Oxford Instruments (**Welcome Reception**)
International Union of Pure and Applied Physics
Faculty of Science, Leiden University (***Freezing Physics***)
Stirling (**USB sticks**)
Stichting Lorentz Fonds
Stichting Physica
Kavli Instituteof Nanoscience, Delft University of Technology
Leiden Cryogenics (**Conference bags**)
Linde Kryotechnik AG (**Outreach Evening Session**)
LT24, University of Florida
Leiden University (**Conference Excursion**)
Stichting FOM
City of Amsterdam (**Boat trip**)
Elsevier Science and Technology Journals (**Wireless**)
European Office of Aerospace Research and Development
MESA+ Institute for Nanotechnology, Twente University
Low Temperature Group, Twente University
Eindhoven University of Technology
Van der Waals-Zeeman Institute, University of Amsterdam
Institute for Molecules and Materials, Radboud University Nijmegen
City of Leiden (**Conference Excursion**)
Zernike Institute for Advanced Materials, University of Groningen
Leeuwendaal, Rijswijk

The following companies presented themselves at the conference exhibition:

American Magnetics, Inc.
Andeen-Hagerling, Inc.
Attocube Systems AG
BlueFors Cryogenics
Cryoconcept
Cryogenic Ltd.
Cryomech, Inc.
Dryogenic
Hightech Development Leiden
Hositrad Holland / Lakeshore Cryotronics
ICEoxford Ltd
IOP Publishing / Physics World
Janis Research Company, Inc.
Leiden Cryogenics B.V.
Linde Kryotechnik AG
L.O.T. - Oriel GmbH
Nanomagnetic Instruments Ltd
Oxford Instruments Nanoscience
Quantum Design
RTI Cryomagnetic Systems
Scientific Magnetics
Springer
Stirling

SATELLITE CONFERENCES TO LT25

ULT2008; Frontiers of Low Temperature Physics
14 -17 August 2008, Royal Holloway University of London
http://www.ult2008.org/ (Organizer: Prof. John Saunders)

Workshop on Quantum Decoherence in Quantum Information Science
11 - 15 August 2008, Lorentz Center, Leiden University
http://www.lc.leidenuniv.nl (Organizer: Dr. Michiel de Dood and Prof. Dirk Bouwmeester)

Conference on Micro- and Nanocryogenics
3 - 5 August 2008, Low Temperature Laboratory, Helsinki Univ. of Technology
http://ltl.tkk.fi/PICO/conference.html (Organizer: Prof. Jukka Pekola)

Physical Phenomena at High Magnetic Fields VI - Conference
1 - 5 August 2008, Tallinn, Estonia
http://pphmf6.edu.ee/ (Organizer: Dr. Raivo Stern)

CC2008: Seventh International Conference on Cryocrystals and Quantum Crystals
31 July - 5 August 2008, Wroclaw, Poland
http://apollo.int.pan.wroc.pl/cc2008 (Organizer: Prof. Andrzej Jezowski)

STRIPES 08: 6th International Conference of the "Stripes and high Tc Superconductivity"
26 July - 1 August 2008, Enrice, Sicily, Italy
http://www.roma1.infn.it/stripes/ (Organizer: Prof. Antonio Bianconi)

CMT32: 32nd International Workshop on Condensed Matter Theories
13 Aug - 18 August 2008, Loughborough, UK
http://www-staff.lboro.ac.uk/~phrtg/aqdjj/cmt32-08/ (Organizer: Prof. Feodor Kusmartsev)

PREVIOUS LT CONFERENCES

	Location	Year	Chairman	Editor(s)	Papers	Participants
0	Cambridge, UK	1946	L. Bragg	J.F. Allen	26	300
1	Cambridge, Mass.	1949	F.E. Simon	J.C. Slater	77	200
2	Oxford	1951	F.E. Simon	R. Bowers	104	210
3	Houston	1953	C. Squires	?	?	?
4	Paris	1955	L. Weil	L. Weil	166	268
5	Madison	1957	J.R. Dillinger	J.R. Dillinger	225	440
6	Leiden	1958	C.J. Gorter	H. van Dijk D. de Klerk Z. Dokoupil	145	323
7	Toronto	1960	W. Watson	G.M. Graham A.C. Hollis Hallett	217	352
8	London	1962	G.O. Jones	R.O. Davies	173	321
9	Columbus	1964	J.G. Daunt	J.G. Daunt D.O. Edwards F.J. Milford M. Yakub	279	502
10	Moscow	1966	P. Kapitza	M. Malkov	564	825
11	St.Andrews	1968	J.F. Allen	J.F. Allen	281	750
12	Kyoto	1970	E. Kanda	E. Kanda	367	800
13	Boulder	1972	R.H. Kropshot	K.D. Timmerhaus W.J.O. Sullivan E.F. Hammel	568	1015
14	Otaniemi	1975	O.V. Lounasmaa	M. Krusius M.J. Vuorio	552	814
15	Grenoble	1978	R.Tournier	R. Tournier	723	1102
16	Los Angeles	1981	R. Orbach I. Rudnick	W.G. Clark	815	1054
17	Karlsruhe	1984	F. Buckel	U. Eckern A. Schmid W. Weber H. Wühl	887	1150
18	Kyoto	1987	S. Nakajima	Y. Nagaoka	957	1563
19	Brighton	1990	D.F. Brewer	D.S. Betts	1047	1212
20	Eugene	1993	R.J. Donnelly	R.J. Donnelly	1212	1229
21	Prague	1996	S. Safrata F. Pobell	S. Danis V. Gregor K. Zaveta	1456	1420
22	Otaniemi	1999	M. Paalanen	V. Gantmakher P. Hakonen J. Pekola F. Rasmussen E. Thuneberg	1232	1381
23	Hiroshima	2002	H. Fukuyama S. Kobayashi	Y Iye S. Maekawa	1313	1466
24	Orlando	2005	G. Ihas	Y. Takano S. P. Hershfield S. O. Hill P. J. Hirschfeld A. M. Goldman	770	853
25	Amsterdam	2008	P. H. Kes	R. Jochemsen P.H. Kes	849	1390