

Preface

The year 2011 marked the 10th anniversary of the IWM conferences. The first edition was held in 2001 in Catania. Ten years of wonderful adventures in the field of heavy ion physics at the Fermi energy have now been accomplished. Scrolling through the large number of papers published in the IWM proceedings during the last decade, it is quite easy to notice (with great satisfaction for all of us) that many of the innovative ideas, in our field, much of the progress in our physics, have been extensively debated in our conference. This was made possible thanks to the large time devoted to relevant discussions among scientists having a broad range of expertise, all of them contributing with the same enthusiasm. This is a great achievement of our community and a great merit of the collective work of CHIMERA and INDRA collaborations. The different scientific committees who were in charge of the scientific organization of the six IWM editions have successfully interpreted the early spirit of the project, summarized by a few simple ideas: novelty of the submitted proposals (including poster session presentations); invited reviews of established results given by outstanding speakers; long time allotted for discussion; favourable conditions to welcome young scientists. The latest conference was held at GANIL (Caen) on November 2nd-5th, 2011. It was nice to see that the freshness that has been characteristic signature of our workshop since its origins was still there. We also noticed an impressive demand, even a need, from young people to continue the work with renewed enthusiasm and new ideas in the field of experimental methods and theoretical investigations. They can envisage the exciting extension of those nuclear studies initiated by early pioneers almost three decades ago in heavy ion physics, thanks to the advent of new and powerful facilities accelerating exotic ions. Innovation in the methods of investigation has indeed often triggered advances in knowledge in nuclear science. We are confident that the presence in our field of a new generation of motivated scientists guarantees forthcoming scientific activity of high quality, and exciting future IWM meetings. This evidence has been captured by the 2011 edition of IWM.

The Editorial Committee