



With this volume we start a new age in *Superficies y Vacío (SyV)*. Thanks to the kind cooperation of recognized national and international scientists we have formed the Editorial Board of *SyV*, their names are presented in the back page of the cover. On the other hand, in this volume we also start the publication of review papers. We will periodically invite renowned experts to share with our community the state of the art in their field of expertise.

Still more work is needed to build a better journal, we are doing our best effort. We thank to the authors for their contributions and to the referees for their support.

We would like to remind you that the *XXI Congress of the Sociedad Mexicana de Ciencia de Superficies y de Vacío A.C. (SMCSyV)* will be held next year during the first week of October in Mazatlán, Sinaloa, Mexico. Please visit the home page of *SMCSyV* (<http://www.fis.cinvestav.mx/~smcsyv/>) to obtain updated information of our society.

Finally we want to thank the support from CINVESTAV-IPN, and the work of Mrs. Diana Garcia Sotelo in preparing this volume.

The Editors

México, December 15, 2000.