

Editorial

John Wiley & Sons, 1807 – 2007: **200 years success in publishing**

Published online 7 December 2006

Dear Reader:

It is a great pleasure to start this year with congratulations to John Wiley & Sons for 200 years of success in the publishing business! The company was founded in 1807, during the Jefferson presidency. In the early years, Wiley was best known for the works of Washington Irving, Edgar Allan Poe, Herman Melville, and other 19th century American literary giants. By the turn of the century, Wiley was established as a leading publisher of scientific and technical information. Nowadays Wiley is a global publisher of print and electronic products, specializing in scientific, technical, and medical books and journals; professional and consumer books and subscription services; and textbooks and other educational materials for undergraduate and graduate students as well as lifelong learners. With about 3,500 employees worldwide, Wiley has operations in the United States, Europe (England, Germany and Russia), Canada, Asia, and Australia. The Company has U.S. publishing, marketing, and distribution centers in New Jersey, California, Virginia, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. Wiley's worldwide headquarters are located in Hoboken, New Jersey.

Wiley-VCH, publisher of *Annalen der Physik* since 1998, joined John Wiley & Sons in 1996. Founded in 1921 as 'Verlag Chemie', Wiley-VCH has an 80-year publishing tradition, mainly in the areas of chemistry, materials science, physics and biology. In 1998, shortly after I had accepted the responsibility as Editor in Chief, Wiley-VCH acquired *Annalen der Physik* from Hüthig, the publishing company based in Heidelberg, which had succeeded Johann Ambrosius Barth in Leipzig, *Annalen der Physik's* publisher for 200 years, shortly after the German re-union. More details on the history of John Wiley & Sons and Wiley-VCH are available at www.wiley.com and www.wiley-vch.de, respectively.

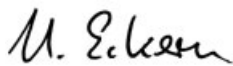
As a result of a major effort of the publisher, another highlight is now available at Wiley InterScience: the **Physics and Astronomy Backfile Collection**, a unique overview over the development of physics and astronomy during the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. The collection spans 820,000 pages of historical papers and hence is one of the largest published on Wiley InterScience. Nine journals are included, most notably *Annalen der Physik* (from 1799) and *Astronomische Nachrichten* (from 1823): as the world's oldest and most renowned journals in the field, their seminal issues were published in German, at that time the lingua franca of the physics community. *Annalen der Physik*, for some time known as *Annalen der Physik und der physikalischen Chemie* (1819–1824) and as *Annalen der Physik und Chemie* (1824–1899), is present with approximately 28,058 articles on 355,686 pages, while *Astronomische Nachrichten* comprises 43,899 articles on 99,565 pages. The backfile journal articles are presented with the article body in PDF and header material and references in HTML, thus allowing both internal and external linking. For detailed information and how to order, see www.interscience.wiley.com/backfiles/physics.

In this issue, we are also proud to present the second contribution to our new series, the 'EINSTEIN LECTURE SERIES', which is devoted to outstanding articles by extraordinary scientists, to reviews on particularly impressive achievements, and to very special scientific events. (See also my Editorial in issue 9/2006.) Starting on the next page, you will find Roy J. Glauber's Nobel lecture, "One hundred years of light quanta", followed by his personal recollections. The Nobel Prize in Physics 2005, as you will no

doubt remember, was awarded to Roy J. Glauber “for his contribution to the quantum theory of optical coherence”, and to John L. Hall and Theodor W. Hänsch, “for their contributions to the development of laser-based precision spectroscopy, including the optical frequency comb technique”. Hänsch’s Nobel lecture, in which he describes his “Passion for precision”, has been published in our September 2006 issue [Ann. Phys. (Leipzig) **15**, 627 (2006)].

I hope you will enjoy the present issue, the first one in this year’s volume – which is volume 519 of the complete *Annalen* series. The ‘EINSTEIN LECTURE SERIES’, which has been received by the physics community with considerable interest, will of course be continued with further remarkable articles, the next one to be published very likely later this year.

With my best regards



Ulrich Eckern
Editor in Chief



Ulrich Eckern, professor of theoretical solid state physics at the University of Augsburg since 1993, was appointed Editor in Chief of *Annalen der Physik* early in 1998. His research is devoted to electronic transport at low temperature, with emphasis on superconductivity, quantum mechanics and dissipation, quasi-one-dimensional conductors, mesoscopic systems, onedimensional models, density functional theory, and – more recently – transport across interfaces. [Photo: F. Schöllhorn]