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Fellowship of the Royal Society for Professor Frank Leslie

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SOCIETY NEWS

Fellowship of the Royal Society for Professor Frank Leslie

Professor Frank Leslie of the Department of Mathematics at the University of Strathclyde, UK has been elected to a Fellowship of the Royal Society of London (FRS). The Fellowship, which is the most meritorious award in British Science, has been gained by Professor Leslie for his significant contributions to mathematical modelling of liquid crystals.



An early major achievement by Professor Leslie was his theory of twisted nematic alignment in magnetic fields. Predictions arising from this theory led to the first practical liquid crystal display and the ultimate establishment of today's liquid crystal electro-optical display industry. A further major achievement was a successful model of flow alignment and rheological behaviour of these materials. Subsequently he made further seminal contributions on flow and dynamic effects, primarily on nematic liquid crystals.

Professor Leslie's work has led to a much greater understanding of the behaviour of liquid crystals, and is very widely used, establishing his international reputation as the leading scientist working on these topics. He received the 1982 Annual Award of the British Society of Rheology.

Born in Dundee, Scotland, Professor Leslie holds degrees from the University of St Andrews and the University of

Manchester. He joined the University of Strathclyde as a senior lecturer in 1968 and has been a professor in the Department of Mathematics since 1979.

Ukrainian Liquid Crystal Society

The Third Ukrainian Liquid Crystal Conference, was held in Kiev, at the Institute of Physics, 10 and 11 January, 1995. More than 50 delegates, representing 12 liquid crystal scientific and industrial groups working in the Ukraine, discussed the latest achievements in physics, chemistry and application of liquid crystals.

An important event of the Conference was the constitutional assembly of the Ukrainian Liquid Crystal Society (ULCS). The ULCS was established as a Committee at the Ukrainian Physical Society. The main objectives of the ULCS are to provide the interface between basic science and application; promote regular contacts between the researchers of liquid crystals in the Ukraine; develop contacts and joint investigations with the scientists of the international liquid crystal community, contribute to the training of specialists in the field of liquid crystals and stimulate new areas of liquid crystal research in the Ukraine.

Professor Igor Pavlovich Pinkevich (Kiev National University), the representative of the Ukraine to the ILCS, was elected to be the President of the ULCS.

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Membership

The International Liquid Crystal Society (ILCS) has grown to well over 800 members in dozens of countries. As the only international body dedicated to the advancement of research and knowledge in liquid crystals, the ILCS plays a central role in dissemination of information to, and communications among, members around the globe. For example, the biennial International Liquid Crystal Conference is held under the auspices of the ILCS. Recent venues have included Vancouver, Pisa, and Budapest; in 1996 the International meeting will be held in Kent, Ohio, USA, and in 1998 it will be held in Strasbourg, France. In addition, the ILCS serves as an umbrella organization for regional societies which have been established in recent years. The Society also publishes *Liquid Crystals Today*, a recently expanded quarterly publication dedicated to keeping the international community apprised of recent and upcoming activities, as well as important developments in liquid crystal