

## Speciality Polymers '90

Electro-optic polymers as well as highly ordered fibres and films continue to be vigorously active areas of our field. Advances are built upon the contributions and collaborations of chemists, physicists and materials engineers in the laboratories of academia, government and industry. The fruits of their labour have potential applications in fields ranging from advanced communications to national defense. For these reasons, the topics above were chosen as the subjects for the conference programme, which reflected all the diversities mentioned.

Papers from the conference are presented in this issue which is dedicated to the memories of our colleagues and friends, William Pence Slichter and Donald Russell Ulrich. Dr Slichter was the retired Executive Director of Materials Science at AT&T Bell Laboratories and Dr Ulrich was Program Manager and Deputy Director of the Chemical and Atmospheric Science Directorate of the Air Force Office of Scientific Research. Dr Slichter earned his Ph.D. in Chemical Physics from Harvard. During his career, he received many recognitions including election to the National Academy of Engineering, the 'American Physical Society Prize in

High Polymer Physics', the American Chemical Society 'Earle B. Barnes Award for Leadership in Chemical Research Management' and the Metals and Materials Society 'Application to Practice Award'. Dr Ulrich earned his Ph.D. in Ceramic Engineering from Rutgers. His recognitions included the 'Strategic Defense Award' and Gold Medal of the American Defense Preparedness Association and the 'Leo Friend Award' of the American Chemical Society.

Both men contributed to the subject areas of our conference through aspects of their research and especially through their management. They were very talented in identifying not only important opportunities in scientific research but also outstanding scientists to pursue those opportunities. They strongly supported colleagues and encouraged them to take part in their fields to the fullest extent.

We thank J. M. Pochan and his colleagues R. M. Ikeda, R. S. Porter, and P. Smith, on the Organizing Committee, for their many contributions to the success of the conference.

*D. W. McCall, L. E. Smith, R. K. Eby*