

CAMBRIDGE, U.K.
AUGUST 20TH - 25TH, 2000



Rather than a conventional conference report, we are able to provide some information extracted from the official final report on the 13th international congress on rheology, held in Cambridge, UK. These pickings give some additional background on the organization of this not only largest European, but also largest international rheology conference so far. Overall, the conference was a great success. A conference report dealing with the contents of the scientific lecture program appeared in the *Rheology Bulletin & Newsletter* of the European Society of Rheology Vol. 43, No. 3 (2000).

Based on previous Congresses the expectation was that Cambridge would attract 600+ participants and 100+ accompanying persons. Finally, a total of 817 attendees were registered with the Congress. These originated from 42 different countries (see diagram). The distribution by type of attendee was as follows: Delegates 536, Students 144, Helpers 19, Accompanying Persons 80, Companies 20, Others 18.

The final report by the organizing committee lists a number of positive (proceedings in both book format and on CD, "24 h" conference desk, avoiding 'no shows', dry runs to excursion sites) and negative lessons (too few space for poster exhibitions, missing communication facilities) learnt which should have an effect on the organization of forthcoming events.

Clearly, organizing a large Congress in a relatively small city like Cambridge with a very distinctive College structure presented unique problems. No large lecture halls were available - even the Opening Plenary Session had to be transmitted by Video to an adjoining Hall. However, by meticulous planning and a great deal of hard work, the vast majority of the problems were overcome and even the necessity of two Congress Banquets was not seen as a 'minus'. Nevertheless, the two occasions when all participants were together, i.e. the Opening Reception at Robinson College and the Monday evening Concert in Kings College Chapel (arranged by Prof. Malcolm Mackley) were important events.

The original core of the Organizing Committee comprised Prof. P Townsend (BSR President 1996-98), Prof. K Walters (ESR President 1996-2000), Prof. M. H. Wagner (European representative), and Prof. J R A Pearson (Local representative). In December 1996, Prof. J Ferguson was confirmed as Treasurer. Sadly, Jim died during

the summer of 1998. Prof. C J S Petrie readily agreed to step into the breach. In late 1997, Dr. D. M. Binding was confirmed as Conference Administrator and he became a member of the Organizing Committee. Prof. Pearson resigned from the Organizing Committee in 1998. Invitations to others to become the local representative on the Organizing Committee were declined. The subsequent lack of a local presence was an inconvenience rather than a problem. The wives of the Organizing Committee formed the "Accompanying Persons Programme" committee. In the original bidding document, a Scientific Advisory Committee was envisaged, comprising K. Walters (Chairman), G. Astarita, J.-M. Piau and M. H. Wagner. Sadly, Prof. Astarita died before the first meeting of the Committee. He was replaced by Prof. J. Mewis. The Advisory Committee therefore became identical with the Executive Committee of the ESR and, accordingly, it was able to meet at regular intervals. Dr. N. E. Hudson was named as Proceedings Editor in the original document to the ICR.

The conference programme was divided into 13 dedicated Minisymposia, which were aided by the sterling efforts of 26 Minisymposia Organizers, who graded the abstracts received: Computational rheology (Prof. R. Keunings, Prof. H. C. Öttinger), Pharmaceuticals, cosmetics and foods (Prof. C Gallegos, Prof. E. J. Windhab), Suspensions and colloids (Prof. H. A. Barnes, Prof. D. V. Boger), Polymer solutions (Prof. G. H. McKinley, Prof. R. I. Tanner), Polymer melts (Prof. J. M. Dealy, Prof. K. Osaki), Solids rheology and composites (Prof. A. G. Gibson, Dr. G. B. McKenna), Rheometry and related physical techniques (Prof. G G Fuller, Prof. P Moldenaers), Microstructural modelling (Prof. L. G. Leal, Prof. B. H. A. A. van den Brule), Flow instabilities (Prof. M. M. Denn, Prof. R. G. Larson), Process engineering (Dr. R. J. Koopmans, Prof. T. Masuda), Foams, emulsions and surfactants (Dr. A. Kraynik, Dr. D. Roux), Non-Newtonian fluid mechanics (Dr. O. Hassager, Prof. M. Renardy), and Granular materials and jamming (Prof. M. E. Cates, Prof. Sir Sam Edwards).

The original intention was for the 1996 Cambridge bid to be made on behalf of the European Society of Rheology. This was not possible under ICR rules and the document, which was put before the ICR, read "The proposed congress would be organized by the British Society of Rhe-

Attendees of Rheology 2000

Argentina	1	Japan	55
Australia	27	Korea	23
Austria	2	Latvia	1
Belgium	20	Mexico	7
Brazil	7	New Zealand	1
Bulgaria	1	Norway	5
Canada	26	Poland	2
China	2	Portugal	12
Cyprus	1	Romania	1
Czech Republic	7	Russia	3
Denmark	11	Singapore	1
Eire	2	Slovenia	5
Finland	2	South Africa	2
France	74	Spain	12
Germany	79	Sweden	14
Greece	8	Switzerland	14
Hong Kong	1	Taiwan	4
India	4	The Netherlands	36
Iran	1	United Kingdom	146
Israel	2	USA	170
Italy	22	Uzbekistan	2

ology with the support and cooperation of the European Society of Rheology". With the passage of time, after the bid had been accepted, the wording evolved to "The Congress will be organized by the British Society of Rheology on behalf of the European Society of Rheology".

From a financial viewpoint, the Congress ended up with a small surplus, having been subsidized for three years by the British Society of Rheology. The large numbers of delegates obviously helped the finances, but the large numbers of students was a cost to the Congress since the student registration fee was heavily subsidized.

Contact the BSR Publications Manager, Dr. Nick Hudson to enquire about availability of the Proceedings of the XIIIth Congress which were published in four volumes and also on a CD-ROM. The Organizing Committee of Rheology 2000

have been happy to serve the international rheological community through the organization of Rheology 2000. We wish the Korean hosts, in particular the chairman Prof. Jae Chun Hyun and the secretary Prof. Seung Jong Lee equal enjoyment and success for the 2004 Congress.

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Grace for the Rheology 2000 Banquets, St John's and Newnham Colleges, Cambridge

**Oculi omnium in te sperant, Domine,
a facie cuius montes fluxerunt ipsi
et terra mota est ipsa
ut serva tua cantavit Deborah.
Aperis tu manum tuam,
et imple omne animal benedictione.
Benedic, Domine, nos et dona tua,
quae de tua largitate sumus sumpturi.
Per Christum Dominum nostrum
Amen.**

*The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord,
before whom the mountains flowed
and the earth was moved
as your servant Deborah sang.
You open wide your hand,
and fill all things living with good things.
Bless us, O Lord, and these your gifts,
which out of your abundance we are about to receive.
Through Christ our Lord
Amen*

Grace devised by Tom McLeish with assistance from Chris Petrie (See Psalm 145, verse 15 (Oculi omnium ...) and Judges, chapter 5, verse 5 (a facie cuius ...))