

## NORDIC RHEOLOGY CONFERENCE 2001

TRONDHEIM, NORWAY  
JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup> - 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2001

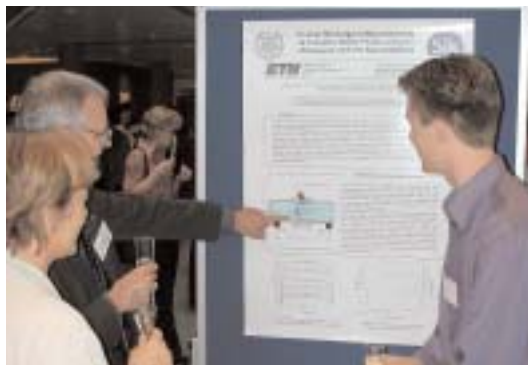
The Nordic Rheology Conference of 2001 was held between the dates of 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> June and represented somewhat of a landmark in the Society's history – the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. In true tradition the conference, in a sense, came home, for it was 10 years ago that the first meeting was held, also in Trondheim. Then was very much different to now, a small room in the Britannia Hotel provided the venue for a very small band of enthusiasts who enjoyed no presentations only a handful of posters! This year, held in the Natural Science Building of the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), the Conference attracted 90 delegates, some 16 presentations and 10 posters, not to mention three internationally recognised guest speakers. Truly the Society has grown!

The conference started with a rheology course comprising of four lectures and an open discussion session. Dr. Bjørn Torger Stokke of the university gave an excellent summary of the basics of rheology; terms, techniques and definitions, aptly setting the scene for his Norwegian compatriot, Dr. Torger Nakken of Norsk Hydro ASA to discuss with the delegates a case study of applied rheology; the challenges in petroleum related R & D. Dr. Edwin Morris of University Col-

lege Cork, then treated the audience to a thorough and enriching tour through the world "The rheology of gelling biopolymer mixtures". After lunch Dr. Leszek Utracki of the National Research Council of Canada gave an enthralling talk on the "Rheology of multiphase polymeric systems".

The evening part of the programme included a reception at the Archbishop's Palace where the conference delegates were welcomed with a glass of champagne and an introduction to Trondheim from the mayor, Anne-Katrine Slungard. Before being let loose in the fascinating museum, which recalled life back to the 11<sup>th</sup> Century, the delegates were serenaded by one of Norway's top female choirs, Choir Cantus, singing a selection of well known classical and contemporary Norwegian songs.

The conference proper opened with the first guest speaker, Dr. Edwin Morris expanding on what he had told the course delegates the day before but specialising on the rheology of pectin-gelatin co-gels. The same session saw a plethora of food based rheological talks, always a speciality of the Nordic meetings, with contributions relating the interaction of low methoxy pectins with skim milk, edible coatings, measuring the adhesion between meat and pasta prod-



## Conference Report III

Figure 1 (left above): Stefania Baldursdottir at Kouami Kouassis poster

Figure 2 (right above): Olivier Mariette demonstrates UVP for Peter Szabo

Figure 3 (left below): Niall Young and Mats Larsson as Watson and Holmes

Figure 4 (right below): Lisbeth Frank, Ulf Bolmstedt at Johan Wiklunds poster

## Conference Report III



Figure 5 (left above):  
Eeva-Leena Heino,  
Annelie Malmberg and  
Simon Ballance



Figure 6 (right):  
Ed Morris at opening  
reception  
left astern at the  
excursion

Figure 7 (left below):  
Annelie Malmberg  
presents the award to  
Eeva-Leena Heino



ucts and rheology of seed oil body preparations. For the first time the annual members meeting was held during a session and this was deemed to be a huge success. It is likely this will be repeated next year. The second keynote lecture started the afternoon session, given by Professor Olav Smidsrød who spoke about the importance of electrostatics in BSA-polysaccharide gels. One further food oriented lecture was given on the viscosity of yoghurt with added inulin as a fat replacer before the theme was handed over to the petroleum and building engineers. This excellent day was capped by a glass of wine as the delegates perused the selection of posters being exhibited.

The NRS was also pleased to announce a good response to the student grant awards that are given, each year, to PhD students who attend the conference and hold either an oral or poster presentations. This year we had 6 such recipients: Johan Wiklund of Sweden, Marianne Hiorth Nordby of Norway, Alma Maroziene, Alviija Salaseviciene and Ernesta Treciokiene, all of Lithuania and Kouame Kouassi of Finland.

The conference dinner then followed after a sail on the Trondheim fjord. It may have been close to high summer but the conditions on board during the sail could politely be described as 'cold'. Nonetheless, the hardy bunch of delegates, used to such forgiving climes sipped champagne as they took in the sights, which included Monks Island, Trondheim's answer to Alcatraz! Safely away from the one time prison a warm restaurant awaited, where the delegates were

treated to an excellent meal. During the meal, the Society's annual rheology awards were presented, first the junior award being presented by the Society president, Peter Szabo, to Henrik Rasmussen, of the Technical University of Denmark, for his work on modelling and numerical simulations. Then, the Carl Klason award, was presented to Eeva-Leena Heino by the Finnish representative Annelie Malmberg for her work on polyolefines and was the first time the Society's top award had been presented to a Finnish national.

The second day started with the third invited speaker, Dr. Leszek Utracki, explaining in detail the free volume concept of rheology. Lectures were then given on varied topics ranging from paper coatings to melt elasticity of polyolefines. The junior award recipient, Henrik Rasmussen then gave a description of his latest numerical analysis, which looked at the viscoelastic end plate instability in the stretch of concentrated polymer solutions. Immediately after lunch, a 'guest' appearance by none other than Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson was made. They entertained the audience with their view of progress in rheological instrumentation over the last decade and their thoughts as to what the future may hold. The conference maintained this instrumentation theme to the end with talks on direct strain oscillation and validation of a texture simulator, which potentially gave the possibility of examining the new field of 'psycho' rheology where the understanding of how the human perceives texture is linked to the texture and rheology of a given food in this case.

The conference was then closed with the promise to meet up again next year for the in Gothenburg. As yet no dates have been set, but details will be posted on the Society's webpage, [www.nordicrheologysociety.org](http://www.nordicrheologysociety.org) in due course. The 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary conference was therefore deemed a success by those that attended and the future looks assured that the Society will continue to flourish over the next decade of rheological progress.

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