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Newsletter, 1/2011

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The society completed its 14th year since its establishment. Unfortunately we rarely have a chance to celebrate these occasions as most of us attend different meetings. The HSR conference during which the majority of the membership meets takes place every 3 years. The next meeting, will be held on 28-29 June 2011 at the National Technical University in Athens a couple of days before the Conference of the Greek Association of Computational Mechanics (GRACM). As a result of the financial crisis, which affects all of us, this venue of the conference was chosen in order to minimise the costs.

The HSR continues to be an active society in the world of rheology as evidenced by the plethora of scientific articles and other contributions by our members. Moreover our members continue to organise international conferences and participate in the governance of the European Society.

## 1 Louis Zapas, 1922 – 2010

With sorrow I have to announce that we lost another member of our society: Dr. Louis Zapas passed away in October, 2010 at the age of 88. Louis was born in the USA to Greek parents coming from the town Mesta in Chios. He was unfortunate enough to lose his parents early and, after spending some of his childhood in Alexandria, Egypt, he had more bad luck in spending the years of the 2nd WW in Mesta. He was arrested by the German occupation army and spend some time in a concentration camp.

After the war he moved back to the US and did his graduate studies in Chemical Engineering at the U. of Pittsburgh. He worked at the Mellon Institute, the Washington Research Center of the Grace Co. and at the National Bureau of Standards (now renamed as NIST). At the latter he developed the famous constitutive equation for the elastic fluids with Bernstein and Kearsley, known as BKZ-fluid (published at *Trans.Soc.Rheol* in 1963). He retired from NIST in 1991.

For his work Louis received the Bigham Medal of SOR. He was a very nice person to have as a friend, enjoyed life in the most profound sense and was at his best when engaged into a discussion, with preference in certain subjects, such as the joys of life (especially good food and wines) and in politics. Greg McKenna wrote about him in his obituary in the Rheology Bulletin:

“... Louis Zapas was a passionate man. He embodied pathos reminiscent of ancient Greek tragedy. Because of his life trials and tribulations, ... he truly lived life as if every day would be his last...in fact, though, he outlived the

expectations of his medical overseers by nearly forty years. Louis Zapas captured the essence of the world “meraklis”. His fun-loving nature was infectious to those around him. Friends and family knew that he loved good company, good food and good zeimbekiko. Both literally and metaphorically, there was no question as to whether he would dance, only as to when and how long...”

## 2 HSR common proposal to the Call for Proposals “THALES”

Several members of HSR have participated in a common proposal for the “Thales” call. FORTH and four Universities co-operated to develop the proposal. G. Petekidis (FORTH/University of Crete) is the co-ordinator. E. Mitsoulis (NTUA), D. Vlassopoulos (Univ. Crete and FORTH), A.D. Gotsis (TUC), J. Tsamopoulos (UoP), S.G. Hatzikiriakos (UBC), C. Tsenoglou, A.N. Alexandrou and G.C Georgiou (Univ. Cyprus), and other members take part in the proposal.

The title of the proposal is:

“Complex Visco-elastic and Visco-plastic Materials: From Microscopic Structure and Dynamics to Macroscopic Flow”

The proposal involves the study of the mechanical properties and the flow of viscoelastic and viscoplastic materials and their relation with their microstructure and rheo-dynamics. We are going to study polymers, colloids and granular materials. The central axis of the study will be the combined utilisation of experimental, theoretical and computational tools from different but complimentary areas of expertise. It is fortunate that the Hellenic Society of Rheology has members in all these areas of expertise. Therefore, HSR is the natural choice for an organisation to begin and develop such an ambitious project. The co-ordination in the research efforts of its members in areas akin to “rheology” is one of the *raison d’être* of the Society.

## 3 Conferences

1. The **6th Hellenic Society of Rheology conference** is scheduled to be held at the National Technical University of Athens in June 2011. The Meeting will be held from Tuesday, June 28th, to Wednesday, June 29th 2011, at the NTUA campus, Athens, Greece. The NTUA campus is near the city centre (5 km) and it is easily accessible from the Athens International Airport Eleftherios Venizelos.

The deadline for submission of abstracts was on January 30, 2011 and 30 papers have been accepted for oral or poster presentation. The registration fee will be 20 Euros (free for accompanying persons and students) to be paid at the Conference. It will include coffee breaks, book of abstracts and opening reception. Details can be found at the webpage of the society ([esperia.iesl.forth.gr/~hsr/HSRwebpage.html](http://esperia.iesl.forth.gr/~hsr/HSRwebpage.html)).

2. Right after the HSR conference a Conference of the Greek Association of Computational Mechanics (GRACM) takes place at NTUA in June 30 - July 2, 2011 (<http://www.gracm.ntua.gr/>).
3. The Hellenic Polymer Society conference (ELEP) was held in Crete in October 24-27, 2010. We tried to arrange a special session dedicated to Rheology in this meeting but the organisers of ELEP could not accommodate our request.
4. Prof. D. Vlassopoulos and Prof. G. Petekidis will represent our society at the next AERC meeting in Suzdal, Russia, 2011.

## 4 Suggestion

I suggest that we make a page in our web-site with detailed professional information of our members (at least for those who want it). This information could include research interests, lists of publications, access to laboratory research equipment, ideas, proposals etc. Please send me your ideas or objections.