

January 4th, 2006

Dear Colleagues:

First and above all, I would like to relay to you my warmest wishes for the New Year: Let 2006 bring health, happiness and prosperity to all of you and your families!

Second, I would like to take this opportunity and update you on the most recent developments concerning our Society in the last six months:

1) The preparations for AERC 2006, which will take place in Hersonisos, Crete, April 27-29, 2006 have practically been completed. As you already know, AERC 2006 is jointly organized by HSR, FORTH, the University of Crete and the University of Cyprus, with Prof. D. Vlassopoulos being the Chair and Prof. G. Georgiou the Co-chair. It will be preceded by two rheology short courses on:

- Multi-scale modeling methodologies, and
- Interfacial rheology and applications.

The two organizers, Profs. D. Vlassopoulos and G. Georgiou, made an excellent job in creating a beautiful and very informative circular for the Conference, which was sent to all HSR members, and then used by ESR to prepare the web page of the Conference: <http://www.rheology-esr.org/AERC/2006>. There, you can find detailed information about:

- the 10 Symposia emphasized in the Conference and their organizers
- the plenary and keynote talks to be given in the course of the Conference, and
- the possibility to submit papers from contributions to the Conference for consideration for publication in special issues of *Rheologica Acta* and of the *Journal of Non-Newtonian Fluid Mechanics*.

On the same web page, you will also find very useful information concerning registration, accommodation, and transportation to the Conference Hotel.

Please note that the deadlines for submission of abstracts for oral (January 10th, 2006) or poster (January 15th, 2006) presentations, and early registration (February 28th, 2006) are fast approaching.

2) Also well progressing are the preparations for the “4th International Workshop on Non-Equilibrium Thermodynamics and Complex Fluids (IWNET 2006)” that is scheduled to take place in Rhodes, September 3-7, 2006. The workshop is organized by Prof. V. Mavrantzas and will highlight the most recent developments in the field of non- and beyond-equilibrium thermodynamics. So far more than fifty (50) top scientists from all over the world in this rapidly evolving field have confirmed participation in

the conference. More information about the Workshop (important dates, registration, hotel accommodation, etc.) is being made available through its web page (<http://www.complexfluids.ethz.ch/cgi-bin/CONF/c>). The first circular of the meeting is also under preparation and will soon be sent to all HSR members.

3) The participation of HSR members has also been very strong in the 77th SOR Annual Meeting, October 16-20, in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The meeting was organized by Profs. Savvas G. Hatzikiriakos and Eric Shaqfeh, and was preceded by a two-day short course on: "Resolving Single Particles and Molecules: New microscopy techniques for rheology". Thanks to the active and enthusiastic role of Prof. S. Hatzikiriakos, 9 HSR members participated in the event (see also attached photos from the event).



(a)



(b)

Members of HSR at the 77th SOR meeting in Vancouver, Canada, October 16-20, 2005: (a) From left, Profs. Hatzikiriakos, Giacomini, Alexandrou, Georgiou and Mitsoulis discussing the finer points of changes proposed to the SOR logo "ta panta rhei", taking into account the HSR's own logo (photo courtesy F. Morrison). (b) From left, Profs. Tsamopoulos, Alexandrou, Mitsoulis, and Georgiou at Vancouver's Stanley Park (photo courtesy J. Tsamopoulos).

After the meeting, Profs. A. Alexandrou, G. Georgiou, E. Mitsoulis and J. Tsamopoulos were invited to participate in a scientific workshop on "Viscoplastic fluids - from theory to applications", which took place in Banff, Alberta, Canada, October 22-27, 2005.

4) An effort is under way by some of our members to organize a small network of rheology expertise and laboratories in Crete. Currently, the participating Institutions are the Technical University of Crete at Chania (represented by Profs. Gotsis and Kelesidis), the FORTH-IESL (represented by Prof.

Vlassopoulos et al.) and the Department of Materials Science of the University of Crete at Heraklion (represented by Prof. Fytas, and Prof. Hatzikiriakos, currently at the University of British Columbia, Canada). The aim of the network is to provide consulting services (including rheological measurements) to the Polymer and Food Processing industries in Crete and the rest of Greece (and, hopefully, at some time even to the rest of southeastern Europe) addressing rheological problems that have to do with the optimization of product quality and production methods. Financing for setting-up the project has been asked from the General Secretariat of Research and Technology of the Ministry of Development. The effort, however, will continue, even if no state support is approved, hoping that the members of our Society will embrace it with their expertise, ideas and suggestions.

5) HSR will make a donation of 1,000 EURO in support of the Trust Fund by FORTH [and Prof. S. Artavanis-Tsakonas (Harvard Medical School) on behalf of many of Stelios Orphanoudakis' friends] and colleagues to propagate and sustain the Orphanoudakis Lecture as an appropriate way of celebrating and commemorating Stelios Orphanoudakis' scientific and educational legacy. Stelios Orphanoudakis (http://www.forth.gr/press-releases/orphanoudakis_press.html) was Professor of the Department of Computer Science of the University of Crete, and since January 2004 he served as the Director of FORTH and the Chairman of the Board of Directors. With his vision for research and innovation, enthusiasm and exceptional communicative ability, he inspired, encouraged and supported many generations of young scientists, while attracting researchers from all over the world to work at FORTH.

The Orphanoudakis lecture will be given once a year by a distinguished scientist who will be chosen from an international pool of nominees by an appropriate committee. The subject of the lectures will be from a broad range of fields within the physical sciences and humanities, reflecting the activities of FORTH, Stelios Orphanoudakis' home institution. FORTH will provide full support, administering the account opened specifically for this purpose, and will make an annual contribution. FORTH has already deposited 30,000 EUROS into this account.

6) The webpage of our Society (<http://esperia.iesl.forth.gr/~hsr/HSRwebpage.html>) has been updated. The new version includes a new "Links" page (<http://esperia.iesl.forth.gr/~hsr/Links.htm>), which contains a very comprehensive collection of http-links compiled by Prof. Chris Tsenoglou, covering the most useful sites in the world with very useful information about Materials Science, Chemical Engineering, Polymers and, of course, Rheology. Please send your ideas and suggestions for changes and additions for the webpage to Prof. A. Gotsis (gotsis@science.tuc.gr).

7) A newsletter describing the activities of our Society in 2005 is under preparation for publication in one of the forthcoming issues of "Applied Rheology".

8) Our secretary, Prof. A. Gotsis, will soon send you information about the current HSR membership, requesting also payment of the annual fees for the New Year (2006)! Membership to HSR has reached a steady state number close to 40-45 people. We definitely need to further increase our membership by attracting more fellows from the areas of Rheology and Fluid Mechanics, both Greeks (who live in Greece and abroad) and non-Greeks, active in fields like polymers, rheology, colloids, processing, computational fluid mechanics, physics, non-equilibrium thermodynamics, applied mathematics, etc., who are not aware of HSR. We especially need to work on strategies and drives that will attract and bring more non-Greeks to our Society, which will be vital to its development in the years to come.

With warm regards,
Vlasis G. Mavrantzas
President of HSR