

## Honoring Janos H. Fendler

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July 12, our dear friend and colleague Professor Janos H. Fendler passed away.

Professor Fendler was born in Budapest on August 12, 1937. He matriculated from high school in 1955, and was forced to leave Hungary in December 1956. He earned his B.Sc. degree at Leicester University (in 1960) and his Ph.D. degree (1964) and honorary D.Sc. degree (1978) at the University College, London. In 1966, he launched his independent research and teaching career in the U.S. and quickly progressed through the academic ranks to the distinguished professorship levels at several American

universities and foreign institutions. Dr. Fendler is noted for the number of worldwide collaborations that he has been engaged with over the years. Since the evolving more favorable political climate in 1990, Professor Fendler has extensively visited, lectured, and conducted collaborative research activities in colloid and surface science at a number of Hungarian Universities and research institutions.

Professor Fendler was an outstanding researcher having authored and co-authored more than 300 original research articles, 95 review articles, and 3 books (*Catalysis in Micellar and Macromolecular Systems*, J. H. Fendler and E. J. Fendler, Academic, New York, 1975, pp 1–545; *Membrane Mimetic Chemistry: Characterizations and Applications of Micelles, Microemulsions, Monolayers, Bilayers, Vesicles, Host–Guest Systems and Polyions*, J. H. Fendler, Wiley, New York, 1982, pp 1–522 and *Membrane-Mimetic Approach to Advanced Materials*, J. H. Fendler, Advances in Polymer Science Series, vol 113, Springer, Berlin, 1994). In recognition of his research achievements and professional accomplishments, Professor Fendler has been the recipient of a number of prestigious awards including the American Chemical Society Kendall Award in Colloid and Surface Chemistry (1983), Humboldt Research Award for Senior U.S. Scientists (1991), Israeli Meyerhoff Award (1997) and Honorary Doctorate (Honoris Causa) from the University of Szeged, Hungary (1999). He has been the North American Editor for *Colloid and Polymer Science*. In addition, he has served on a number of editorial boards: *Journal of Organic Chemistry* (1978–1982), *Journal of Colloid and Interface Science* (1981–1985), *Langmuir* (1985–1987), *Bulletin de la Société Chimique de France* (1985–1992), *Magyar Kémiai Folyóirat* (1992–2002), *Advanced Materials* (since 1993), *Chemistry of Materials* (since 1997).

A special symposium honoring Professor Janos H. Fendler on the occasion of his 70th birthday was held in conjunction with the 20th European Colloid and Interface Society (ECIS) Conference in the main building of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Budapest, Hungary (which appropriately is

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Janos' birthplace) on September 20–21, 2006. This symposium, organized by Imre Dékány, Kazuo Kurihara and Chieu D. Tran, featured 17 lectures by colleagues, friends, former and current co-workers and students of Dr. Fendler who traveled from 3 different continents for the event. In addition, many other ECIS conferees attended the symposium and participated in exciting and lively discussions on the general

theme of “Colloid Science as the Foundation of Material Science and Nanotechnology”.

This special issue *Colloid and Polymer Science* arose out of the special Fendler Symposium and serves as a permanent tribute to honor Professor Janos H. Fendler whose research and indomitable spirit has touched the lives of many scientists throughout the world.