

Oleg Matveevich Nefedov

(On the Occasion of His 70th Birthday)

On November 25, 2001, Vice President of the Russian Academy of Science, Head of the Laboratory of Carbene and Small Cycle Chemistry at the Zelinskii Institute of Organic Chemistry, Oleg Matveevich Nefedov celebrates his 70th birthday.

Oleg Matveevich Nefedov and his disciples created and have been successfully developing one of the basic scientific research areas called the chemistry of carbenes, their analogs, and other unstable molecules and small cycles. He has contributed to important areas of organic and physical organic chemistry. Nefedov's pioneering works on low-temperature matrix isolation and direct spectroscopic studies of the structure and reactions of carbenes, free radicals and other reactive intermediates are now considered as classics. The editorial board of ***Kinetics and Catalysis*** is pleased to mention Nefedov's contribution to catalytic chemistry. The catalytic methods for the direct cyclopropanation of unsaturated compounds developed by him are used worldwide. New methods for the synthesis of strained cyclopropane compounds, pesticides, medicines, and monomers developed by Nefedov paved the way for large-scale and pilot scale manufacturing of valuable products, modern environmentally friendly pesticides, and highly efficient antibacterial preparations. It is hard to overestimate the value of these findings.

Nefedov's research has been highly regarded by the Russian and international communities of scientists. For his contribution to science he received two State USSR Awards and prestigious awards from the Academy of Sciences (the Zelinskii and Sechenov Memorial Awards in 1987 and 1991), the International Karpinsky Memorial Award (1993), and the Mendeleev Golden Medal (1998).

Nefedov actively participates in international cooperation and represents Russian science at international scientific meetings.

The Russian scientific community recognizes Nefedov as a prominent scientist and as a science manager. As Vice President of the Russian Academy of Sciences, he coordinates various studies in chemistry, the development of various programs in chemistry and chemical engineering, the extension of international science



cooperation, and the training of highly qualified specialists in science. Nefedov is the founder of the Higher Chemical College of the Russian Academy of Sciences. His laboratory at the Zelinskii Institute of Organic Chemistry is recognized as one of the leading scientific schools. O.M. Nefedov is the Editor-in-Chief of *Russian Chemical Bulletin*, *Mendeleev Communications*, and *Russian Chemical Reviews*.

The editorial board of *Kinetics and Catalysis* expresses cordial congratulations to Oleg Matveevich Nefedov and wishes him good health and further success in his diverse scientific, organizational, and teaching activities.