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## Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals Science and Technology. Section A. Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals

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## **Foreword**

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## **FOREWORD**

The 4th International Topical Meeting on the Optics of Liquid Crystals (OLC '91) was held in Cocoa Beach, Florida, on October 7–11, 1991. Previous meetings in this series were held in Naples (1986), Torin (1988) and Cetraro (1990). In 1990, it was decided that future meetings would be held in odd years in order to avoid conflicting with the International Liquid Crystal Conference and others held during even years. As with previous OLC conferences, OLC '91 attracted broad international participation: Approximately 70 delegates were in attendance. The focus of the meeting was on optical properties and applications of liquid crystals and organic materials, and the scientific sessions covered topics such as nonlinear optics, applications, surfaces and interfaces, optical properties, microscopic structure and properties, instabilities and pattern formation, and theory and computation. In addition, the weather and swimming facilities of the conference hotel helped create a congenial and stimulating atmosphere that made the meeting most enjoyable.

The next meeting in this series, OLC '93, will be held in Hungary at Lake Balaton. The chairman of OLC '93 is I. Janossy of the Research Institute for Solid State Physics of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

We would like to acknowledge the generous support of CREOL at the University of Central Florida, F. Hoffman-La Roche, ALCOM and the Liquid Crystal Institute of Kent State University, and Hughes Research Laboratories. We are much indebted to Donna Wilson, whose contributions in organizing this meeting helped make it a success.

Peter Palffy-Muhoray M.J. Soileau Co-chairmen, OLC '91