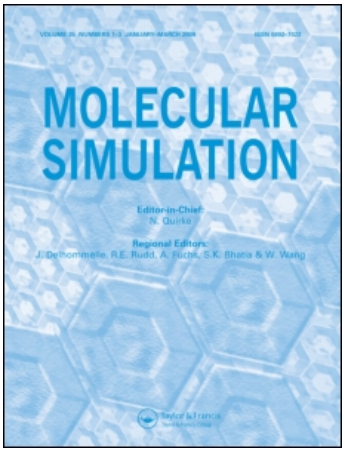

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Editorial

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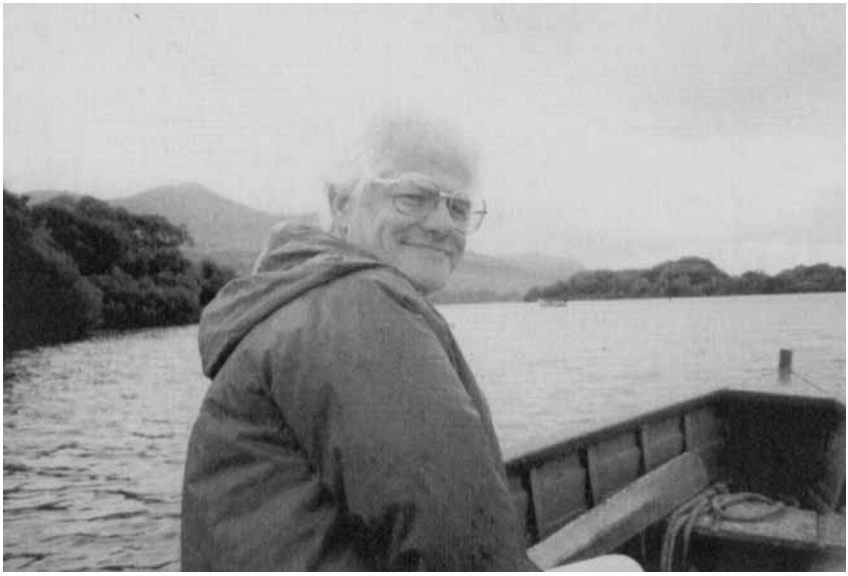
EDITORIAL



This special issue of Molecular Simulation is dedicated to David Nicholson. It marks David's formal retirement from the Chemistry Department at Imperial College where he has spent 40 years contributing to the statistical mechanics of adsorption and flow in porous media. David has been a pioneer in the study of porous materials. He was one of the first to apply simulation methods, especially grand canonical Monte Carlo techniques, to the study of adsorption in pores. His book "*Computer Simulation and the Statistical Mechanics of Adsorption*, Academic Press, London, 1982." with Parsonage, stimulated many to use these, then novel, techniques. My interaction with David dates to the early nineties when I became involved in a European project on membranes for gas separations run by Steve Tennison at BP. Indeed I think I suggested David, known to me then only by his reputation, as a suitable academic partner. I soon realised how good a suggestion I had made. Together with Roger Cracknell, we made very rapid

progress on the use of non-equilibrium methods to study fluid flow in carbon nanopores; progress which has continued to this day. No one who has collaborated with David can fail to be struck by his outstanding abilities and depth of knowledge of his field.

The present special issue contains 12 papers and personal contributions by his friends and colleagues, some of which were presented as lectures at the meeting "The Statistical Mechanics of Adsorption", held in his honour at Imperial College on October 3rd, 2001.

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