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In Celebration

Academician Alexander Ivanovich Leontiev on his 80th birthday

Graham de Vahl Davis, Leonid Dombrovsky*, Richard Goldstein, Kemal Hanjalic, Geoff Hewitt, John Howell, John Lloyd, W.J. Minkowycz, Samuel Sideman, Natalie Medvetskaya

Institute for High Temperatures, Russian Academy of Sciences, NCHMT, Krasnokazarmennaya 17A, Moscow 111116, Russia



On May 24th, 2007 we will celebrate the 80th birthday of Academician Alexander Ivanovich Leontiev. In 1950 Alexander Leontiev graduated from Moscow Aviation Institute, and in 1963 he became a Doctor of Technical Sciences. A few years later, in 1965, he became a full Professor. He was elected a corresponding member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR in 1987 and in 1991 he was elected an Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Academician Leontiev is a leading figure in thermal physics research (and in particular in convective heat transfer and related topics); his work is known and admired throughout the world!

The period of Academician Leontiev's creative work has embraced the most significant period of the development of thermal sciences in the former Soviet Union and in the Russian Federation. It includes well-known achievements in such areas as boiling, boundary layer theory, and modern problems of combined free and forced convective heat transfer. His work at the leading science centres in Moscow and Novosibirsk has resulted in Academician Leontiev becoming the leader of the entire community of Russian scientists working in the area of heat transfer. He is Chairman of the National Committee of Heat and Mass Transfer of the Russian Academy of Sciences and a member of the editorial board

of a number of Russian and International journals including the *International Journal of Heat and Mass Transfer* and the *International Communications in Heat and Mass Transfer*.

Over the past several decades, Alexander Leontiev has been leading the Russian delegations to numerous international science forums and has actively participated in the activities of the International Centre for Heat and Mass Transfer (ICHMT) as an elected member of the Executive Committee and Vice President of ICHMT. His incisive intelligence and natural personal charm, friendliness and an extremely wonderful sense of humour, makes a personal relationship with Sasha (as he is called by friends and colleagues from many countries) not only rich and interesting, but also extremely pleasant.

Alexander Leontiev has educated at least two generations of young specialists in the science of heat transfer. Under his leadership, seminars are regularly conducted for young scientists; they are referred to as the "Leontiev Schools". Many leading researchers working in scholarly laboratories all over the world are proud to call themselves Leontiev's students.

A relationship with Alexander Leontiev provides the young scientists much more than professional knowledge. This relationship aids them in becoming cultured individuals, in valuing their colleagues, and in forming positive human qualities.

We and many other friends and colleagues of Academician Alexander Leontiev wish him hearty good health, continued creative activity, and cheerful spirit.

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* Corresponding author. Tel./fax: +7 495 362 5590.

E-mail address: dombro@online.ru (L. Dombrovsky).