



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

International Journal of Heat and Mass Transfer

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/hmt

In Memoriam – Alexander I. Leontiev



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Professor Alexander Ivanovich Leontiev on 30th November 2022. Alexander Leontiev graduated from Moscow Aviation Institute in 1950, and in 1963 became a Doctor of Science in Engineering. A few years later, in 1965, he became a full Professor. He was elected an Academician of the Russian Academy of Science in 1991. Professor Leontiev was a

leading figure in thermal physics research, particularly in convective heat transfer and related topics.

One of the most fruitful periods of scientific activity of Alexander Leontiev was his work in the Institute of Thermophysics of the Siberian Branch of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR from 1959 to 1968. He founded there the Laboratory of Thermal Gas Dynamics, whose extensive subject matter included studies of heat transfer processes in turbulent convection, phase transitions, and combustion in power engineering. The research community, the foundation of which was initiated by Alexander Leontiev during these years, successfully developed with his participation during the following decades and continues to work nowadays.

After returning to Moscow, Alexander Leontiev lectured on heat transfer and headed a department at Bauman University. He was also the founder and head of a laboratory at the Institute of Mechanics at Moscow State University. For the past few years, he has led one of the research topics at the Joint Institute for High Temperatures.

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 combined natural and forced convective heat transfer. His work at the leading science centres in Novosibirsk and Moscow has resulted in Academician Leontiev becoming the leader of the entire community of Russian researchers working in the area of heat transfer. He was Chairman of the National Committee of

Heat and Mass Transfer of the Russian Academy of Science and a member of the editorial boards of several Russian and international journals including the *International Journal of Heat and Mass Transfer* and the *International Communications in Heat and Mass Transfer*.

Professor Leontiev has been the permanent chairman of the Russian National Committee for Heat and Mass Transfer since 1995. Over several decades, Alexander Leontiev has been leading the Russian delegations to numerous international science forums and has 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 extremely wonderful sense of humour, made a personal relationship with Sasha (as he was called by friends and colleagues from many countries) not only rich and interesting but also extremely pleasant.

Alexander Leontiev has received numerous scientific awards in the field of heat transfer research, including the Luikov Medal, which is the highest international award in the heat transfer community. Since 2008, Professor Leontiev is an elected foreign member of the US National Academy of Engineering. In 2010, he was awarded the Global Energy Prize for fundamental research in the field of intensification of heat transfer in power plants.

Alexander Leontiev has educated at least two or even three generations of specialists in the science of heat transfer. Under his leadership, seminars were regularly conducted for young scientists, referred to as the "Leontiev Schools". Many leading researchers working in scholarly laboratories all over the world were proud to call themselves Leontiev's students. The relationship with Alexander Leontiev gave the young researchers not only professional knowledge but helped them to become cultural personalities, appreciate their colleagues, and to form positive human qualities.

Alexander Leontiev's interest in all aspects of life and his natural optimism have inspired his friends and colleagues. His wisdom, humour, kindness, and leadership in the heat transfer community will be missed by many friends and colleagues worldwide.

Sergey Alekseenko
John Lloyd
Oleg Alifanov
Dmitry Markovich
Ping Cheng
Natalia Medvetskaya
Leonid Dombrovsky*
John Rose
Ivan Egorov
Terrence Simon
Richard Goldstein
Evgueni Smirnov

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