Martin K. Lindemann To Receive The Olney Medal

One of the world's leading authorities on emulsion polymerization has been named the 1988 recipient of The Olney Medal for achievement in textile chemistry. He is Martin K. Lindemann of Greenville, S. C., a consultant and patent agent whose work in the development of vinyl polymers—especially poly(vinyl acetate) and poly(vinyl alcohol)—resulted in a multimillion dollar market for pressure polymer emulsions used in the textile, adhesive, paint and paper industries.

A native of Hanover, Germany, Lindemann has devoted much of his professional career to emulsion polymerization. A graduate of the Technical University of Hanover with a BS in chemistry, he came to the United States in 1951 at the age of 23 to join Onyx Oil and Chemical Co. at Jersey City, N. J., as a research chemist. He was called into the military in 1952 and was with the U.S. Army Signal Corps in Japan when he became a U.S. citizen in 1953. He returned to Onyx in 1954 and resumed his work on polymer emulsions, antistatic agents and surfactants for the textile industry.

He left Onyx in 1955 to become a research chemist at the central research laboratories of Air Reduction Co. (now Air Products and Chemicals Inc.) at Murray Hill, N. J. Continuing his work on polymer emulsions, he also became interested in the kinetics of polymerization of vinyl esters and the chemistry of poly(vinyl alcohol). In 1959 he was named supervisor of polymer synthesis for Air Reduction at Middlesex, N. J., where he worked on the chemistry of poly(vinyl alcohol); the development of polymer emulsions for textile, adhesive, paint and paper applications; and the development of high pressure emulsion polymers of vinyl acetate and ethylene.

While with Air Reduction, Lindemann earned an MS in polymer chemistry (awarded in 1962) at the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn (now the Polytechnic University of New York). His thesis work, under Frederick Eirich, was on the dilute solution of poly(vinyl alcohol).

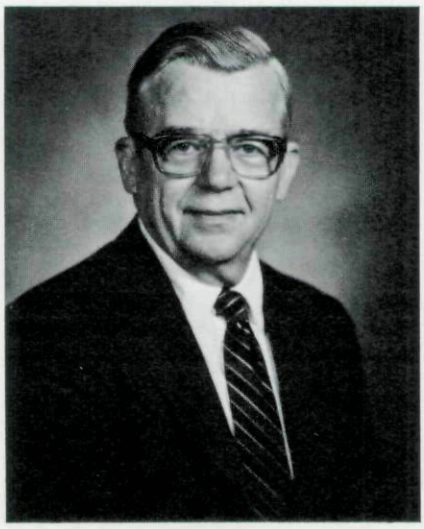
Lindemann left Air Reduction in 1966 to become manager of resin research for Mobil Chemical Co. at Edison, N. J., where he supervised polymer and resin research groups in laboratories at Edison and at Cleveland, Ohio, and Kankakee, Ill. His work at Mobil also included alkyd polymer chemistry, polymer emulsions and acrylate polymer chemistry.

In 1968 he was named vice-president and technical director for Chas. S. Tanner Co. (now a subsidiary of Ciba-Geigy Corp.) at Greenville. While establishing Tanner as a major emulsion polymer producer, he also continued work on pressure emulsions of vinyl acetate and ethylene in addition to the development of a broad range of textile chemical specialties. During the time he was with the company, its sales increased from $3 million a year to $24 million, largely as the result of the development of new products.

Lindemann left Tanner in 1980 to join Sun Chemical Corp. (now Sequa Corp.) at Chester, S. C., as senior scientist and project leader for emulsion polymerization. He also worked on latex interpenetrating polymer networks for which he was granted a U.S. patent in 1986.

Since 1985 Lindemann has been an independent consultant—primarily in research activities for Sequa—and a registered patent agent. As a patent agent he writes and processes patent applications, conducts validity and infringement searches, serves as an expert witness, and devotes as much time as possible to chemical writing.

The holder of 43 patents (38 in the U.S.), many of which are in commercial use, he has written extensively for the technical press including chapters on poly(vinyl acetate), poly(vinyl esters) and poly(vinyl alcohol) for the *Encyclopedia of Polymer Science and Technology* edited by H. F. Mark, N. G. Gaylord and N. M. Bikales (Wiley – Interscience, New York; Vols. 14 and 15, 1971).



MARTIN LINDEMANN, the forty-fifth recipient of The Olney Medal, became a U.S. citizen in 1953.

He has a large personal library—books, journals, journal reprints, patents, technical publications—devoted to polymer chemistry, especially the chemistry and applications of vinyl acetate and poly(vinyl alcohol).

Professional Activities

In addition to being a member of AATCC for the past 20 years, Lindemann also has been active in the American Chemical Society, TAPPI (Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry), the Federation of Paint Societies, the Southern Coatings Society and the Carolina Patent, Trademark and Copyright Law Association. Being fluent in German, he was for many years a member of the German Chemical Society.

Family Man

Lindemann is married to the former Simonne Hochcajt, a native of Antwerp, Belgium, who is a librarian at the Michelin Research and Development Corp. in Greenville. The Lindemanns have two sons—Paul, an attorney who lives in Atlanta, and Andrew who is in law school at the University of South Carolina.

Lindemann's hobbies include the reading of European and American history, biographies and current political affairs. He enjoys classical music, opera, gardening, boating, swimming and photography.

The Olney Medal

Established in 1944 in honor of Dr. Louis Atwell Olney, the founder and first president of AATCC, The Olney Medal is presented in recognition of outstanding achievement in textile or polymer chemistry or other fields of chemistry of major importance to textile science. The award consists of a gold medal, a scroll and an honorarium.

Presentation of the medal each year is a highlight of AATCC conferences. This year's presentation will be made at the conference awards luncheon on Thursday, September 29. Following the luncheon, Lindemann will deliver the traditional Olney Medal Address.

Previous Recipients

Lindemann is the forty-fifth recipient of The Olney Medal. The first award was

The Olney Medal

presented to Dr. Olney in 1944. Since then it has been awarded to:

1945—Milton Harris
Milton Harris Associates
1946—William A. Cady*
U.S. Finishing. Co.
1947—Edward A. Schwarz*
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
1948—Harold M. Chase*
Dan River Mills
1949—Charles A. Seibert*
The Du Pont Co.
1950—George L. Royer*
American Cyanamid Co.
1951—Raymond W. Jacoby*
Ciba Co.
1952—Werner von Bergen†
Forstmann Woolen Co.
1953—Roland E. Derby Sr.*
The Derby Co.
1954—William D. Appel*
National Bureau of Standards
1955—Miles A. Dahlen*
The Du Pont Co.
1956—Walter J. Hamburger*
Fabric Research Laboratories
1957—P. J. Wood*
Royce Chemical Co.
1958—Henry E. Millson†
American Cyanamid Co.
1959—Emery I. Valko*
Lowell Technological Institute
1960—Arnold M. Sookne†
Harris Research Laboratories
1961—Fred Fortess
Celanese Corporation of America
1962—Charles F. Goldthwait*
North Carolina State University
1963—Guiliana C. Tesoro
J. P. Stevens & Co.
1964—Richard O. Steele
Rohm and Haas Co.
1965—Herman F. Mark†
Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn
1966—Wilson A. Reeves†
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1967—Edwin I. Stearns†
American Cyanamid Co.
1968—Harold P. Lundgren†
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1969—D. Donald Gagliardi*
Gagliardi Research Corp.
1970—Paul L. Meunier†
The Du Pont Co.
1971—Ernest R. Kaswell†
Fabric Research Laboratories
1972—Victor S. Salvin†
University of North Carolina at Greensboro
1973—Herman B. Goldstein
Sun Chemical Corp.
1974—Henry A. Rutherford†
North Carolina State University
1975—R. Lee Wayland Jr.
Dan River Inc.
1976—George L. Drake Jr.*
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1977—James M. Straley†
Tennessee Eastman Co.
1978—Dmitry M. Gagarine
Milliken Research Corp.
1979—Joseph W. Gibson Jr.
The Du Pont Co.
1980—Roland E. Derby Jr.*
The Derby Co.
1981—Mathias J. Schuler†
The Du Pont Co.
1982—Stephen B. Sello*
J. P. Stevens & Co.
1983—Theodore F. Cooke
Textile Research Institute
1984—Ralph McGregor
North Carolina State University
1985—Stanley P. Rowland†
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1986—Melvin D. Hurwitz†
University of North Carolina at Greensboro
1987—Ludwig Rebenfeld
Textile Research Institute

†Retired *Deceased