Crystallographers


M. H. Mueller 1918–1996

Melvin H. Mueller died of heart disease Friday 28 June 1996. Mel, as he was known to all his friends, was born 22 February 1918 in Spencer, Iowa and graduated PhD in Chemistry from the University of Illinois in 1949. After several years at Deere & Company, the US Rubber Company and the University of Illinois, he joined the Argonne National Laboratory in 1960; he was a Senior Scientist at Argonne when he retired. Mel was very active in actinide structural research and published numerous papers in that field. He continued a successful collaboration with his Argonne colleagues after retirement. He made many significant contributions to powder diffraction methods. Among them, his 1960 least-squares program for lattice-parameter determination written with LeRoy Heaton and K. T. Miller is still highly regarded and widely used. He collected the first set of single-crystal neutron diffraction data on the CP-5 reactor, in collaboration with Sid Sidhu and Stan Simonsen. His knowledge of the numerous uranium phases, including anisotropic grain growth in bulk uranium (later used as a target material at the IPNS spallation neutron source at Argonne), led to phase characterization of the uranium silicides. Mel also made numerous major contributions to a variety of scientific organizations. In all of them, his was a voice of reason and compassion in difficult situations. He served most effectively as Secretary of the American Crystallographic Association from 1973 to 1975, undertaking any task that would advance the ACA regardless of the time and effort required. He was later appointed to the American Institute of Physics Governing Board from 1981 to 1987, serving as a Member of the Executive Committee from 1985 to 1986, and is remembered as a very thoughtful and supportive member of both AIP governance bodies. He also served on the International Centre for Diffraction Data (ICDD) Board of Directors from 1991 to 1995. His association with the ICDD goes back to its predecessor, the Joint Committee on Powder Diffraction Standards. He served on a number of ICDD committees after retiring from Argonne. His work on the Metals and Alloys Subcommittee resulted in the recently produced Metals & Alloys Search Manual being always current and available in a form that was most useful both for newcomers and those more experienced in the field. Mel chaired the Grants-in-Aid Committee from 1989 to 1993, a period over which the number of grant recipients, especially from overseas, increased significantly; much of this increase is directly attributable to Mel’s efforts. Ancillary to his own studies, many first-rate powder diffraction patterns were developed that he then contributed to the Powder Diffraction File. His positive attitude toward life and its challenges earned him a host of lasting friends. He will long be remembered by them as a fine scientist, an enthusiastic collaborator, and a compassionate human being who will be sadly missed.

S. C. Abraham, R. Jenkins & R. A. Young

New Commercial Products

Announcements of new commercial products are published by the Journal of Applied Crystallography free of charge. The descriptions, up to 300 words or the equivalent if a figure is included, should give the price and the manufacturer’s full address. Full or partial inclusion is subject to the Editor’s approval and to the space available. All correspondence should be sent to the Editor, Dr A. M. Glazer, Editor Journal of Applied Crystallography, Clarendon Laboratory, University of Oxford, Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3PU, England.

The International Union of Crystallography can assume no responsibility for the accuracy of the claims made. A copy of the version sent to the printer is sent to the company concerned.


X-Y Microslides for Fine-Tune Positioning

A line of X-Y microslides that can hold a variety of mirrors and other devices for fine-tune positioning lasers and calibrating medical and laboratory instruments is available from Charles Supper Company, Inc., of Natick, Massachusetts.

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Charles Supper Company, Inc., Donald E. Goodwin, VP Marketing, 15 Tech Circle, Natick, MA 01760, USA.


Revolutionary Benchtop Lyophilizer

FTS Systems is now offering the Flexi-Dry MP benchtop lyophilizer. This unit is arguably the most advanced benchtop freeze dryer ever made. It combines complete microprocessor control and a titanium condenser with a maximum low temperature of 188 K. The short unrestricted vapor path from product container to condenser allows for rapid drying times and maximum efficiency.

Flexi-Dry MP benchtop lyophilizer

Other features of the Flexi-Dry MP include its compact size, ADD product indicator, safety alarms and hot gas defrost. Manifolds for the Flexi-Dry are offered in acrylic, Teflon and stainless steel.

FTS Systems, PO Box 158, Route 209, Stone Ridge, New York 12484, USA.

International Union of Crystallography


Prices of IUCr journals

The Executive Committee of the International Union of Crystallography is pleased to announce that there will
be no price increase for *Journal of Synchrotron Radiation* in 1997. There will be a 5% discount on the prices of the individual sections for subscribers taking out combined subscriptions to Sections A + B + C + D and Sections A + B + C of *Acta Crystallographica*. Individuals may also take out a combined subscription to *Acta Crystallographica*, *Journal of Applied Crystallography* and *Journal of Synchrotron Radiation* will receive a discount of 25%. The Executive Committee has determined the following subscription rates and prices of back numbers for *Acta Crystallographica*, *Journal of Applied Crystallography* and *Journal of Synchrotron Radiation* as from 1 January 1997.

### Acta Crystallographica

The following rates will apply for Volumes A53, B53, C53 and D53 (1997). All subscription rates are fixed in Danish kroner.

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The reduced-rate subscriptions are ordinarily only available to members of recognized scientific societies, and applications must be accompanied by a written undertaking that the journal is for the personal use of the subscriber and will not be made available to libraries, institutions etc. These conditions also apply to persons wishing to order back numbers at the reduced rates.

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### Airfreighting of copies to the USA, Canada and Japan

Deliveries of *Acta Crystallographica*, *Journal of Applied Crystallography* and *Journal of Synchrotron Radiation* to the USA, Canada and Japan in 1997 will continue to be by air freight. The use of this service is obligatory for all subscribers in those countries. The charges in Danish kroner are as given below.

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**Journal of Applied Crystallography**

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**Journal of Synchrotron Radiation**

- Add Dkr 95

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- Add Dkr 190

### Single parts

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**Electrooptic effects in liquid crystal materials.** By L. M. BLINOV and V. G. CHIGRINOV. Pp. xvii + 464. Berlin: Springer-Verlag, 1996. Price DM 89.00. ISBN 3-540-74408-6. This is a ‘Study Edition’ of the 1993 hardcover version of this work. The book by two of the leaders in liquid-crystal research in Russia, presents a complete and accessible treatment of virtually all known phenomena occurring in liquid crystals under the influence of electric fields.”