

## Laudation

*by Wojciech Zajęc*

Dear Professor Carlile, Dear Colin!

Your scientific achievements are widely recognised. You were awarded an honorary doctorate degree by the universities of Birmingham, Huddersfield, and Lund.

It is due to your exceptional personal skills that anybody lucky enough to have ever worked with you, remembers this as a great experience.

Ladies and gentlemen, distinguished guests.

Professor Colin James Carlile was born in north-west England. He is an alumnus of Leicester and Birmingham Universities. His first experience with neutron scattering and instrumentation came with his PhD thesis. During more than twenty years of active scientific research, he studied structural and dynamical properties of solids such as polymers, liquid crystals, metal hydrides, pharmaceuticals, and magnetic materials. His name is forever associated with one of the best time-of-flight inelastic and quasielastic scattering spectrometers, IRIS.

Colin Carlile's expertise as an outstanding experimental physicist, as well as his excellent communication skills, warm-heartedness and straightforwardness, paved his way up into project management roles, and then managerial and directorial positions: Head of Division at the ISIS Pulsed Neutron Source, then Associate Director and Head of the Projects Division at the Institute Laue-Langevin, Grenoble. In 2001 Colin Carlile was appointed Director of this world's leading neutron facility.

His deep knowledge of neutron instrumentation and exceptional managerial skills came into play with even more power when Colin Carlile became Director of the European Spallation Source. It would not be too much of exaggeration to state openly that it was him who actually won the ESS location for Sweden. Under his command, the 1.8 billion € ESS project successfully set sail. And by no means was it an easy task.

Professor Carlile's links with the Henryk Niewodniczański Institute of Nuclear Physics Polish Academy of Sciences are long-lasting and firm. During his ISIS years,

our physicists many times enjoyed his hospitality and comprehensive assistance. As soon as he became Director of the ILL, professor Carlile started his efforts to set up scientific partnership between Central European countries, and Poland in particular, and Institute Laue-Langevin. Institute of Nuclear Physics became the place where the idea was actually put into action. Since then, the Institute of Nuclear Physics has been playing a leading role in coordinating Poland's involvement in the ILL, and then ESS.

Professor Carlile was twice a member, and once a chair of the Scientific Advisory Board – an international body of reviewers and advisors to the Institute of Nuclear Physics. Through his reviews, he really contributed to today's success of the Institute.

In his bibliography of ca 200 scientific publications we find prof. Carlile's first work on hydrogen diffusion in metals, and one of the recent papers "Polarized Neutron Laue Diffraction on a Crystal Containing Dynamically Polarized Proton Spins". Therefore, numerous commitments at the level of the highest managerial positions never stopped his research activity, nor did they quench his thirst for knowledge. Quite the contrary: today Colin Carlile is becoming the youngest honorary professor ever, for at the moment he is in the middle of his university course in astrophysics and preparing for end-of-term examinations.