

Congratulation to Professor Pavel Lukáč on occasion of his 80th birthday



Professor Pavel Lukáč was born on July 22, 1935 in Nový Klenovec, Czechoslovakia. After graduation at the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics of Charles University in Prague (MFF UK) in 1958, he started his professional career at the Department of Solid State Physics. Already his *candidatus scientiarum* thesis (equivalent to Ph.D.), defended in 1966, devoted to the investigation of hardening mechanisms in hexagonal metals, attracted a significant international attention. In 1981 he received *doctor scientiarum* (DrSc.) degree and he was appointed as full professor at MFF UK. In this period he published several fundamental works about the influence of solute atoms on deformation processes in hexagonal metals. Professor Lukáč has authored more than 350 reviewed publications. Besides the papers referring about the hexagonal materials, he presented (featured) important contributions in the field of superplasticity and instabilities of plastic deformation.

The activities of Professor Lukáč in the materials science community are invaluable. Since his stay at the Institute of Metal Physics in Göttingen (under leadership of Professor Peter Haasen) he has systematically built a network of international scientific contacts. Thanks to his efforts many young colleagues from Charles University had opportunities to join research teams in laboratories abroad. Professor Lukáč is also founder of the International Symposium on Plasticity of Materials (ISPMA, now International Symposium on Physics of Materials), which allowed in 70s and 80s for meeting of scientists from both sides of the iron curtain. In 1995 he received the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Award for his excellent scientific results and merits in establishing the Czech-German scientific collaboration.

The personal and leadership qualities of Professor Lukáč are unambiguous. He contributed significantly to developing the Department of Physics of Materials at MFF UK to an internationally recognized workplace.

On behalf of all his friends and colleagues, I would like to take this opportunity, to wish Professor Lukáč Happy Birthday, good health, prosperity, strength, courage and fortitude all the days of his life.

Kristián Máthis