

**Personalia**

## **Orest Pizio — Ukrainian research ambassador in Mexico D.F.**



On January 2022 Dr. Orest Pizio turns his 70th anniversary being one of the founders of Condensed Matter Physics (CMP) journal and an actual member of its Editorial Board. Nowadays, CMP is an internationally well-known journal, recognized by the European Physical Society and covered by Web of Science Core Collection. The very first volume of Condensed Matter Physics published in 1993 contained contributions of Ukrainian researchers, mainly from Lviv. Orest edited the second volume and performed a pioneering job of inviting the researchers from around the world to submit their papers for publication in CMP.

Orest Pizio was born on January 30, 1952 in Lviv. After graduating from Ivan Franko Lviv State University in 1973, he started his scientific career at Lviv Department of Statistical theory of condensed systems of the Kyiv Institute for Theoretical Physics of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences (now Bogolyubov Institute for Theoretical Physics of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine). In 1980 Orest Pizio received his PhD degree from this Institute, having presented the doctoral thesis entitled “Reference system approach in the collective variables method for ion-molecular systems” under supervision of Profs. Ihor Yukhnovskii and Myroslav Holovko. For over ten subsequent years Orest continued to work in Lviv. Over the course of these years Lviv Department was transformed firstly to Lviv Division and in 1990 to Institute for Condensed Matter Physics (ICMP) while Ukraine became an independent country (1991). Orest Pizio was an active participant of these historic events establishing international research cooperation, co-organizing international meetings, e.g., International School on Ionic Solvation (1983), Second Soviet-Italian Symposium on the Mathematical Problems of Statistical Physics (1985).

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In 1993 Orest received a fellowship at the Institute of Chemistry of the National University of Mexico (UNAM) and since then he has been working there at the Department of Physical Chemistry. During his scientific career (over 40 years) Orest Pizio published around 250 articles and book chapters. The scientific interests of Orest Pizio were nicely summarized by Carlos Vega and Stefan Sokołowski in the editorial to the special issue of *Condensed Matter Physics* (Vol. 15, No 2, 2012) dedicated to his 60th birthday and concerned the development of new statistical-mechanical approaches and computer simulations in the description of nonuniform fluids. The theoretical tools he uses in his work include integral equations (of the first and of the second-order), various density functional approaches and computer simulations. His research has covered a wide spectrum of scientific problems: description of uniform and nonuniform ionic fluids, polydisperse nonuniform fluids, investigation of the structure and phase transitions in nonuniform associating fluids, development of new theoretical and simulation approaches in describing the so-called quenched-annealed systems, and thus, the confinement of fluids by strongly disordered porous solids. More recently, his scientific interests have shifted toward the description of adsorption and phase transitions in the systems involving polymeric fluids and polymers tethered at the surfaces and in the model pores, water and other (methanol, etc.) polar liquids and their mixtures and solutions.

Being at a far distance from Lviv (or, “on the other side of a pond”, as some like to joke) for many years, Orest is still tightly integrated into the scientific activities of the ICMP. This is reflected in many things. Firstly, he is true to the vector of his scientific pursuits, established when starting his career in Lviv, but taking it towards new heights and horizons. Over the years he actively co-publishes scientific papers with his colleagues from here and from many other institutions. Having a very clear understanding in the need to support the publishing activity of our journal, *Condensed Matter Physics*, he regularly submits his research results here, resulting in authoring of 24 papers. He is also a frequent referee for the manuscripts submitted in his scientific area, providing invaluable help in sustaining a high level of expertise for the selection process. Besides being a member of the CMP Editorial board, Orest is active as a member of Supervisory Board of the Institute for Condensed Matter Physics.

The portrait of Orest, as a person, will not be complete without mentioning his long-lasting greed for hiking. During his younger days, he conquered several peaks in Caucasus, Crimea, Carpathian mountains. Later he switched his hiking activities to the Mexican soil. This reflects his style of thinking and of life-style in general: fast, impulsive, always positive and energetic. We wish Orest to always keep his energy at a high level and many more years of activity!