Boris Aleksandrovich Rozenberg (1936–2008)

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Professor Boris Aleksandrovich Rozenberg, Doctor of Chemistry, an outstanding scientist of the Russian Federation in the field of macromolecular compounds, died on October 19, 2008.

Rozenberg was born in Krivoi Rog (Ukraine). After graduation from the Dnepropetrovsk Institute of Chemical Engineering, he began scientific activity as a post-graduate student at the Karpov Institute of Physical Chemistry (Moscow).

Since 1965, Rozenberg had been working at the Institute of Problems of Chemical Physics, Russian Academy of Sciences. He began his career as a scientific researcher and became the head of the Laboratory of Physical Chemistry of Polymer Matrices and the Department of Matrices and Composite Materials. He was also a member of scientific councils of the Russian Academy of Sciences for Macromolecular Compounds and for Kinetics and Reactivity, affiliated with the Presidium of the Russian Academy of Sciences; a member of the Scientific Council of the Institute of Problems of Chemical Physics, Russian Academy of Sciences; a member of certain scientific and expert councils of

other institutes of the Russian Academy of Sciences; an active member of the Editorial Board of the journal *Vysokomolekulyarnye Soedineniya* (Polymer Science); a member of the IUPAC International Group on Polymer Networks; and a reviewer for international polymer journals.

Rozenberg performed a large number of pioneering works in the field of living ionic polymerization of heterocycles. He advanced and developed the theory of the polymolecular transition state in the hardening processes of epoxide oligomers by means of nucleophilic hardeners; developed the theory of phase separation induced by hardening of multicomponent oligomer systems; discovered a previously unknown diffusion mechanism controlling relaxation of free volume in amorphous polymers; established trends characterizing the hardening of liquid-crystalline epoxy monomers in a magnetic field; and obtained fundamental data on the kinetics and mechanism of anionic polymerization of vinyl monomers containing groups with the labile hydrogen atom. Based on these studies, highly efficient polymer materials were created and produced on an industrial scale. In 1968, the production technology for thermostable polymers based on formaldehyde and trioxane was awarded a bronze medal at the Exhibition of Achievements of the National Economy.

Rozenberg was a talented teacher and tutor. He was a professor at the Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology from 1978 to 1994. Nineteen candidates' dissertations have been defended under his guidance and six of his students have become doctors of sciences.

Rozenberg was an author or coauthor of more than 600 scientific works, including 14 monographs, books, and 40 inventions. In 2005, he was awarded the Kargin Prize of the Presidium of the Russian Academy of Sciences for the theory of phase separation induced by hardening of multicomponent oligomers systems. In 2006, he received the honorary title of honored worker in science of the Russian Federation.

The memory of Boris Aleksandrovich Rozenberg will always remain in the hearts and minds of his colleagues, students, and friends.