



Dr. Karel AIM

Dr. Karel Aim, born 1947 in Prague, Czech Republic, completed his study of technical analytical and physical chemistry at the Institute of Chemical Technology in Prague (ICTP) with honours in 1971. In 1977 he defended his PhD thesis in physical chemistry (dealing with phase equilibria) at the Institute of Chemical Process Fundamentals (ICPF) of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences (now the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, ASCR).

He has worked at ICPF since 1971. In the years 1981-1982 he was for nine months a research fellow at the Danish Technical University in Lyngby and from 1989 to 1994 he spent several periods as a visiting researcher at DICAMP of the University of Trieste. Since 1992 he has been Deputy Head, and from 2006 the Head of the E. Hála Laboratory of Thermodynamics at ICPF. Since 1990 he has been a member, and from 1992 to 2006 the Chairman of the Scientific Council of ICPF. Since 2007 he serves as a Chairman of the ICPF Board.

Karel Aim has been a member of the Academy Assembly of the ASCR since 1993. From 1997 to 2005 he was on the Academy Council of the ASCR (from 2001 to 2005 a member of its Presidium); in 2009 he was re-elected to the Academy Council for another 4-year term. In 2005-2009 he has served as a member of the Council for Sciences of the ASCR.

His main research interests include experimental and applied statistical thermodynamics of fluid systems, namely the development of experimental methods for phase equilibria measurements and the development of thermodynamic models of the state and phase behaviour of fluids based on molecular theory. He has published over 50 original scientific papers, 5 monographs or monograph chapters, and over 120 international conference contributions (mostly lectures, 10 invited). Between 1984 and 1989 he coordinated a section of the international IUPAC project. He has participated in organising a number of international scientific meetings, many of them abroad. In particular, he has been a member of the IOC of the world conferences on “Properties and Phase Equilibria for Product and Process Design“ and since 2000 he has been a member of the International Steering Committee of the European Symposia on Applied Thermodynamics. Since 1988 he has been lecturing at postgraduate courses at ICTP. His other interests include R&D management, foresight, and science and technology policies development. Inter alia, he is a member of the Engineering Academy of the Czech Republic, the Czech Chemical Society, and the Czech Society of Chemical Engineering.

Karel Aim has been sitting on many scientific and expert boards (e.g. the Council for Chemical Sciences of the Grant Agency of the ASCR, advisory boards of the Academy Council of the ASCR, working bodies for the preparation of the National Programmes of Research, National Strategies, and National Policies, steering boards of R&D programmes, etc.), participating in projects on strategic studies (including projects of IPTS, Joint Research Centre of the European Commission), and acting as a Czech delegate to several Programme Committees of the RTD Framework Programmes of the EU and to a series of European Commission consultations with the Member States on R&D and innovation issues. He has been the Czech representative to the Board of Governors of the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission since 1999.