

ANNUAL REPORT 1997

Membership

The membership of the Group on 11/7/97 stood at 172.

Committee

The committee until the AGM for 1997 consists of:

Chair	Prof. J.H.R. Clarke (UMIST)
Hon. Secretary	Dr. D.J. Cleaver (Sheffield Hallam)
Hon. Treasurer	Dr. A.J. Masters (Manchester)
Ordinary Members:	Prof. M.P. Allen (Bristol)
	Dr. S. Goodwin (BP, Sunbury)
	Dr. P.G. Higgs (Manchester)
	Dr. P.D. Olmsted (Leeds)
	Dr. P. Warren (Unilever, Port Sunlight)
	Dr. M.R. Wilson (Durham)

Meetings and other activities during 1997

The Group's meeting for 1997, including the AGM, was a two day conference on *Structured Liquids*, held at Grey College, Durham, 22-23 September 1997. The conference attracted delegates from continental Europe and the USA as well as a reasonable attendance from the UK. It featured the Lennard-Jones Lecture for 1997, given by Prof. Daan Frenkel of the FOM Institute, Amsterdam, entitled *What van der Waals could have told us about Protein Crystallisation*. In addition, the Group ran a one-day workshop at Burlington House, London, on *Self Consistent Field Theory (applied to complex polymer liquids)*, on July 9, 1997. This involved an extended presentation from Prof. J.G.E.M. Fraaije and co-workers from Groningen. The response from the twenty delegates was very positive, resulting in a series of similar events being planned.

Future plans

Following the success of our first one day workshop, a second, on *Classical Density Functional Theory*, will be held in Bristol on April 1, 1998. The principal lecturer will be Professor R. Evans, the intention being to give an introduction to, and overview of, the use of density functional methods in a format suitable for experimentalists, simulators and theoreticians from different backgrounds. This event has proved particularly popular, all places having been booked by early February. Suggestions for topics for future workshops are welcome, and should be made to Dr A.J. Masters (email: Andrew.Masters@man.ac.uk). This year we shall also be supporting the established CCP5 Spring School on *Methods in Molecular Simulation* to be run by Profs. M.P. Allen and D.J. Tildesley in Bristol, March 24-31, 1998. This residential School is aimed at graduate students starting in the field of computer simulation, with the intention of providing a grounding in a wide variety of simulation techniques and the underlying statistical mechanics. Our support for this School has resulted in it being extended expressly to increase the time allocated to this underlying material.

The Group has a one-day meeting planned for June 22, 1998, entitled *Novel Applications of Statistical Mechanics*. It is to be held in Manchester in collaboration with the Theoretical Condensed Matter Physics group of the IOP (organisers are Drs. A.J. McKane and P.G. Higgs, email: Paul.Higgs@man.ac.uk), the theme being applications of statistical mechanics outside traditional physics and chemistry. A further meeting may be run at the end of the year, subject to ongoing negotiations with other groups.

Accounts

The accounts for the year 1997, prepared by the Hon. Treasurer Dr. A.J. Masters, are attached herewith.

D. J. Cleaver (Sheffield Hallam)
Hon. Sec.