

PRESS RELEASE



The Gunnar Randers Research Prize for 2007 rewards pioneer research in complex materials and processes. The Prize is awarded by the Institute for Energy Technology.

The Randers Physics Research Prize for 2007 at NOK 100.000,- is awarded to Professor Paul Meakin, Idaho National Laboratory (INL) for his groundbreaking research in complex materials and processes. His work has played a key role in various fields spanning from the development of Kevlar® super strong fibers to knowledge about fractures in materials.

Professor Paul Meakin scores high on all of the criteria set up for the Research Prize. He has documented the most outstanding professional quality and his work has led to an increased fundamental understanding within many fields of materials science, complex materials and processes.

Meakin is born and raised in England. He received a BSc degree in chemistry (1st. class honors) from the University of Manchester, and in 1969, he received a PhD in physical chemistry from the University of California at Santa Barbara. He then went directly to the DuPont Company where he worked in the Central Research Department for 23 years.

Meakin has strong ties to Norwegian research communities, especially the Department of Physics at the University of Oslo where he was Professor II from 1992 to 2001, highly engaged in the guidance and teaching of Master and PhD students. Here he has been involved in the development of new fields of research in a wide area, from meandering rivers courses to enhanced oil recovery in the North Sea.

Besides his position as director of the Center for Advanced Modeling and Simulation, Idaho National Laboratory, Meakin is also Professor II at the Emory University, Department of Physics, and professor II at the Norwegian Center of Excellence, "Physics of Geological Processes", University of Oslo, the Department of Physics.

Paul Meakin has been the author or co-author on more than 350 scientific articles with over 15 000 citations, and he has been ranked as one of the most cited physicists in the world. He is "Fellow of the American Physical Society" and member of the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters.