

BSR Annual Award Citation 2006

Oliver Harlen

It gives me great pleasure to formally announce the 2006 winner of the BSR annual award to be Dr Oliver Harlen.

Oliver Harlen's work follows on from the George Batchelor, John Hinch and John Rallison school of thinking within the Applied Mathematics Department at Cambridge and he has continued to maintain and develop their tradition of excellence and rigour in the field of polymer rheology and suspensions. Working initially under the guidance of John Rallison, Oliver pioneered analytical and numerical techniques applied to solving problems relating to polymer solutions, particularly when subject to strong extensional flows. He became a FENE constitutive equation man! He collaborated with Dr Jeff Odell of Bristol Physics on double jet extensional flow experiments and he also became interested in drop deformation.

In a key move, Oliver came north to Leeds where he has successfully collaborated with Professor Tom McLeish and helped develop Leeds as a centre of excellence for polymer rheology and complex flow. He was involved with the formulation of flowSolve, a numerical simulation package that uses Lagrangian tracking techniques. He has since continued with numerical simulations of drops and has branched out into other fields such as modelling ink jet printing, foams and instabilities.

Oliver is a very worthy winner of the award and we look forward to his lecture on matching filament stretching behaviour with numerical simulation.

Malcolm Mackley, Manchester, November 2006.