

## **The 2013 Berni Alder CECAM prize award ceremony: 23 August 2013**

The Berni Alder CECAM prize was awarded at CCP2013 - XXV IUPAP Conference on Computational Physics in Moscow. Professor Berni Alder made the trip from California to award the prize, in person, to Professors Herman Berendsen (Groningen University, NL) and Jean-Pierre Hansen (PESCA Université Pierre et Marie Curie Paris, FR and Department of Chemistry, Cambridge, UK), the joint winners of the 2013 award. Both these scientist have made outstanding contributions to the developments in Monte Carlo and molecular dynamics simulations methods for understanding the properties of proteins, ionic liquids and plasmas.

Professor Alder introduced the winners in turn, with an insightful sketch of their important contributions to the field of computer simulation and how these might influence future developments in the area.

Professor Berendsen gave a wonderful account of his involvement with CECAM from the 1970's, as a foundation for his work on biological molecules, water, constraints dynamics and isothermal molecular dynamics.

Professor Hansen demonstrated the power of computer simulation as a reliable test-bed for simple theories used to understand complicated phenomena. He described his exciting work on the clustering, phase separation and tri-criticality of an ultra-soft model of polyelectrolytes.



The beautiful crystal prizes were awarded by Professor Alder and the day was completed by an small celebratory dinner on the 22<sup>nd</sup> floor Sky Lounge Restaurant; a wonderful view of Moscow and fitting end to a great day.



Professor Berni Alder awards the Berni-Alder CECAM prizes for 2013 to Professor Jean-Pierre Hansen and Professor Herman Berendesen.



The CECAM Director, Dominic Tildesley, explaining the artistic importance of the prize to the incredulous prize-winners.



The prizewinners relax in Conference Centre after their presentations. (Can you spot the other CECAM prizewinner in the photograph?)



A celebratory prizewinners dinner on the 22<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Conference venue; (Photograph courtesy of Frederieke Berendsen, our other guest)