

MACRO GROUP UK POLYMER PHYSICS GROUP BULLETIN



IOP | Institute of Physics
Polymer Physics Group

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Contributions for inclusion in the **BULLETIN** should be emailed (preferably) or sent to either:

Dr Nathalie Lavignac (MGUK)
Medway School of Pharmacy
University of Kent,
Chatham, ME4 4TB

n.lavignac@kent.ac.uk

or

Dr Anthony Higgins (PPG)
College of Engineering
Swansea University
Singleton Park,
Swansea, SA2 8PP

a.m.higgins@swansea.ac.uk

The deadline for contributions for the next issue is

30th June 2015

Editorial

Happy New Year and welcome to the January 2015 edition of the Macro Group and PPG bulletin.

Firstly we congratulate our distinguished award winners. **Professor Richard Jones** (University of Sheffield) is the recipient of the 2015 PPG **Founders' Prize**. He will be presented with the award and give the Founders' lecture at the PPG biennial in Manchester in September of this year. **Dr Paola Carbone** (University of Manchester) has been selected as the **DPOLY Exchange Lecturer**. She will present her lecture at the March 2015 meeting of the American Physical Society in San Antonio, Texas. Further details regarding both awards and the meeting in Manchester are given inside this issue of the bulletin. We also congratulate **Professor Cameron Alexander** (The University of Nottingham) and **Dr Paul D. Topham** (Aston University) winners of the 2014 **Macro Group UK Medal** and **Macro Group UK Young Researchers Medal**, respectively.

We would like to remind PhD students and postdoctoral researchers who are members of the Macro Group that **D. H. Richards bursaries** are available to help fund conference expenses. We would like to encourage current polymer physics PhD students, and also those who have recently completed their studies, to apply for the **Ian Macmillan Ward Prize**.

As well as the prize announcement, this issue includes an article describing Professor Ward's contributions to polymer physics and the decision by the PPG committee to name the PhD student prize in his honour.

As usual, we have a number of conference reports and announcements of forthcoming meeting. Among these, we would particularly like to highlight the RAPS meeting in Birmingham in September and the Advanced School in Soft Condensed Matter (a training course for PhD students) in Loughborough in April.

Thanks to all who have contributed an item to this issue of the bulletin.

Nathalie Lavignac
Anthony Higgins
Bulletin Officers

The Pure and Applied Macromolecular Chemistry Group (Macro Group UK) is a joint group of the Royal Society of Chemistry and the Society of Chemical Industry.
The Polymer Physics Group is a joint group of the Institute of Physics and the Royal Society of Chemistry.

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Views from the Top

From the Chairman of
Macro Group

Greetings from Melbourne! As some of you know, in September 2014 I took up a new position as Monash Warwick Alliance Chair of Polymer Materials, with most of my time being spent at Monash University. It has been as smooth a transition as could be expected, although simultaneously starting two new jobs on opposite sides of the globe does present some challenges! But I am happy to say that things are now well and truly up and running at each institution and I am very much looking forward to working with my new colleagues.

Since I have a position at a UK University (Warwick), I was delighted to be able to continue to act as Chairman of the Macro Group (with the Committee's approval, of course!) and so here I am introducing issue 83 of the Bulletin. In December we held a one-day meeting in London to award our most recent medals winners. Photos of the award winners can be found herein. The meeting featured talks from Prof Ullrich Steiner (Macro Group Medal), Dr Lorna Dougan (Macro Group Young Researchers' Medal), Dr Joe Patterson (Jon Weaver PhD Prize) plus supporting lectures from Prof Steve Armes, Prof John Seddon and Dr Oren Scherman. The quality of the science presented, on a wide range of topics from polymer synthesis to soft matter biophysics, was outstanding and the meeting was very well received. Unfortunately, Dr Ezio Rizzardo who won the Outstanding Achievement Medal, was unable to attend the meeting, but since his office is directly across the road from mine, I was able to present him with his medal before the meeting (see photo herein).

On to the 2014 medal winners: I extend my warmest congratulations to Prof Cameron Alexander, who is the recipient of the Macro Group Medal, and Dr Paul Topham, who receives the Young Researcher's Medal. Both are truly deserving of their awards. The quality of the field in both cases was excellent, although the number of nominations received was small. We would dearly love to have a larger field to choose from and so we encourage you to think about nominating someone for next year's medals – maybe yourself! More info in the next Bulletin issue. In particular, nominations of industrial scientists are few and far between. We know there are excellent polymer scientists in industry, and we would be delighted to see some of them nominated. We are also seeking nominations for the 2014 Jon Weaver PhD Prize, sponsored by Synthomer. For those of you new to Macro Group, Jon Weaver was a young and upcoming academic at Imperial College who sadly passed away in 2012. Details of how to nominate someone are elsewhere in the Bulletin. As for the medals, we are not overwhelmed with nominations, so I would encourage you strongly to nominate one of your students or, if you are a PhD student and you believe you have done an outstanding piece of work, to seek nomination yourself.

Macro Group supports early career researchers in other ways, for example by offering bursaries to help them present their work at conferences. We recently changed the rules so that post-docs are also eligible, and we increased the amount available for overseas conferences to £500. Sadly, once again we are not inundated with applications. I can't say this any more clearly: WE HAVE MONEY TO GIVE AWAY. So consider applying! There are some boundary conditions, mainly to prevent multiple people from the same group scooping up all the available funds, but the process is not onerous and so long as the conference is appropriate, chances of success are high. Again, see below for details. We also organise an annual conference just for young researchers: the Young Researchers' Meeting (aren't we good to you??). This year's YRM will be held at the University of Warwick, most likely in September. Details will be sent out in due course, but make a note of the approximate date and start planning your abstract.

With that, I wish you all the best for the coming year!

Neil Cameron
Chairman Macro Group

From the
Chairman of the PPG

Janus particles are one of the many fascinating systems of interest in soft matter. They are usually defined as objects in which the two sides have differing properties, such as charge or hydrophilicity. They are named after Janus, the Roman god of beginnings and transitions, who is depicted with two faces looking in opposite directions.

By some accounts, January is thought to take its name from Janus. It is traditionally known to be a month for reflection on times past while dreaming what the future might hold. In this month, it seems appropriate then to reflect on our Group's history while looking ahead to what is in store for the coming year.

Being an odd number, 2015 is a year for our Polymer Physics Group biennial meeting. The upcoming programme includes a fantastic slate of invited speakers, which you can read about on page 21 of this newsletter, along with the Founders' Prize Lecture.

Those of you who are new to the Polymer Physics Group might not know the background to the establishment of the Founders' Prize. Its planning was initiated in 1999 after the death of Professor Andrew Keller, FRS, as a way to commemorate his contributions. Professor Keller was one of the five *founders* of the Group, and he served as the Group's Chair from 1975 to 1981. In July 1963, he wrote in a letter proposing the establishment of the Group: "It is becoming increasingly apparent to many of us working in polymers – particularly in physics and physical chemistry – that we have no platform where to meet, present and discuss our work....Obviously we are in need of *some kind of a forum* where research workers can present and discuss the different stages of their research as it progresses." Building on this vision of the founders, the Group held its inaugural meeting in April 1964, at the Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham. We are now anticipating our 27th meeting in Manchester.

The first recipient of the Founders' Prize was Professor Sir Sam Edwards in 2001. Looking ahead to September's Biennial meeting in Manchester, Professor Richard Jones from the University of Sheffield will be the well-deserved recipient of the Founders' Prize. His prize lecture will provide a perfect occasion to recognise his major contributions to polymer physics and the wider scientific community, and also to celebrate his contributions to our Group, as the past Chair from 2005 to 2011. A profile of Professor Jones appears on page 8 of this newsletter.

This year's Student Prize for the Best Publication will provide a way to identify and reward a PhD student who has published an outstanding paper related to polymer physics. I hope to see a large number of nominations before the deadline on April 30th – although that will make the Committee's task of selecting the winner even more difficult! The call for nominations is on page 11.

One might consider the Student Prize to have a Janus-like quality. Strong PhD students secure the future of our subject, and in this way the Prize looks forward. At the same time, the Student Prize is also a way to look back in time to the efforts of one of the Group's founders and past Chairs: Professor Ian Ward of the University of Leeds. The IOP Groups Committee has recently approved the prize to be named the "Ian Macmillan Ward Student Prize" in his honour. You can read more about Professor Ward on page 10 of this newsletter. The Student Prize winner will present a lecture at the biennial meeting in Manchester. The deadline for abstracts for oral presentations at this meeting is May 27th, 2015. Don't miss out on a chance to present your work. I look forward to seeing all of you at what promises to be a very memorable event.

Joseph Keddie
Chairman Polymer Physics Group

PPG & Macro Group Committees

Polymer Physics Group Committee

Chair:

Professor Joe Keddie (University of Surrey)

Honorary Secretary and Treasurer:

Dr Aline Miller (University of Manchester)

Ordinary members:

Professor Steve Eichhorn (University of Exeter)

Dr Jonathan Howse (University of Sheffield)

Dr Ann Terry (Rutherford Appleton Laboratory)

Dr. Martin Buzzza (University of Hull)

Dr. Cécile Dreiss (Kings College London)

Dr. Anthony Higgins (Swansea University)

Dr. Alexei Likhtman (University of Reading)

Dr. Johann de Silva (Trinity College Dublin)

Macro Group Committee

Chairman: Prof Neil Cameron (Monash University) 2013 - 2016

Secretary: Dr Dave Adams (University of Liverpool) 2008 - 2016

Treasurer: Dr Peter Deakin (Aldrich) 2014 - 2017

Ordinary Members:

Dr Frederik Claeyssens (University of Sheffield) 2014 - 2017

Dr Theoni Georgiou (Imperial College London) 2014 - 2017

Prof. Natalie Stingelin (Imperial College London) 2014 - 2017

Dr Steve Edmondson (University of Manchester) 2014 - 2017

Dr Peter Shaw (Synthomer) 2013 - 2016

Dr Cecile Dreiss (Kings College London) 2014 - 2017

Dr Nathalie Lavignac (University of Kent), *Bulletin/Meetings Officer* 2014 - 2017

Dr Wim Thielemans (University of Nottingham) 2012 - 2015

Prof. Charlotte Williams (Imperial College) 2012 - 2015

Prof. Cameron Alexander (University of Nottingham) 2012 - 2015

Dr Paul Topham (University of Aston) 2013 - 2016

Dr Matthew Gibson (University of Warwick), *Web Site Officer* 2013 - 2016

Dr Adam Limer (Unilever) 2013 - 2016

Dr Valeria Arrighi (Heriot-Watt University), *Membership Officer* 2013 - 2016

Representative Members:**Representing European Polymer Federation:**

Prof. Lian Hutchings (University of Durham)

Representing Colloid & Interface Science Groups, RSC and SCI:

Dr Cecile Dreiss (Kings College London)

Representing Materials Chemistry Forum, RSC:

Prof Stephen Yeates (The University of Manchester)

Representing Polymer Physics Group, IoP:

Dr Cecile Dreiss (Kings College London)

Representing Biomaterials Chemistry Group, RSC:

Dr Aline Miller (University of Manchester)

Representing Polymer Degradation Discussion Group:

Dr Mogon Patel (AWE)

Representing Polymer Colloids Forum:

Prof. Peter A. Lovell (University of Manchester)

Representing RAPS Network:

Dr Chris Holland (University of Sheffield)

IOP Institute of Physics

Career Break Grants

The Institute's Career Break Grants help members to stay in touch with the wider physics community.

Contributions towards attendance and associated costs are available.

Members can apply by going to http://www.iop.org/activity/academia/Career_Break_Grants/page_5466.html

or by emailing cbg@iop.org

Career Break Rates for Conferences

Members can attend all Institute of Physics conferences at a reduced rate.

Reduced Membership Subscription Rates

Members on a career break are entitled to a reduced membership subscription rate, which is currently just £10.

Email membership.iop.org, including your membership ID number in the text, to qualify for this rate.

MacroGroup UK Awards

Macro Group Award Winners Receive Medals

The winners of the 2014 Macro Group UK Medal for Outstanding Achievement and the winners of the 2013 Macro Group UK, Young Researchers Medals and the Jon Weaver PhD Prize were presented their medals at a one-day symposium held at the SCI Headquarters in London on the 16th of December 2014.

The speakers included the winners of the Medals and supporting lectures from UK's researchers including Prof. S. Armes, Prof. J. Seddon and Dr O. Sherman. The afternoon session was dedicated to the medal lectures and awards.

Ezio Rizzardo was the recipient of the 2014 Macro Group UK Medal for Outstanding Achievement. Ezio is well known for his work on NMP and RAFT polymerisation. Unfortunately, Ezio was not able to attend the meeting. However, Prof. Neil Cameron, chairman of the Macro Group, was able to present his medal in advance of the meeting and recorded a message from Ezio, which was played during the conference.

Joseph Patterson, winner of the 2013 Jon Weaver PhD Prize, gave a lecture entitled "Imaging solution based nanomaterials – Advances in dry state cryo and liquid TEM". Joseph summarised the results of his PhD and gave some insight in the work he is currently doing at the Center for Aerosol Impacts on Climate and the Environment (CAICE).

Lorna Dougan was the recipient of the 2013 Macro Group UK Young Researchers Medal. During her lecture entitled "Single molecule force spectroscopy as a tool to probe the dynamics of proteins from extremophile organisms", Lorna showed us how she can use AFM to study the stability of proteins from extremophiles and how this can allow her to engineer new ones.

The meeting concluded with the lecture "Function through structure" from **Ullrich Steiner**. Ullrich was the winner of the 2013 Macro Group UK medal. He discussed how polymer self-assembly can be used to improve the functionality of different materials, focusing on the gyroid phase.



Joseph Patterson, Lorna Dougan, Ullrich Steiner

MacroGroup UK Awards



Left: **Dr Ezio Rizzardo** (CSIRO) receives the 2014 Macro Group UK Medal for Outstanding Achievement from Neil Cameron.

Right: **Prof. Ulrich Steiner** (University of Cambridge) receives the 2013 Macro Group UK Medal from Neil Cameron.



Left: **Dr Lorna Dougan** (University of Leeds) receives the 2013 Macro Group UK Young Researchers Medal from Neil Cameron.

Right: **Dr Joseph Patterson** (University of Warwick) receives the 2013 Jon Weaver PhD Prize from Dr Robin Harrison and Dr Peter Shaw (Synthomer).



MacroGroup UK Awards

2014 MACRO Group Medal Awards Announced

Macro Group UK Medal

The Macro Group UK Medal is awarded annually to a UK based scientist who has made a significant and substantial contribution to the development of polymer science through his/her scientific achievements and/or services to the UK polymer science community.

This year the award has been made to **Professor Cameron Alexander** (School of Pharmacy, The University of Nottingham).



Professor Alexander received his PhD from the University of Durham in 1990 and has been a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry since 2008. His work has focused mainly on the synthesis of polymers for bio-medical applications, especially drug, gene and cell delivery. Most recently he has held an EPSRC Leadership Fellowship (2009 -14) to develop synthetic biopolymer complexes and conjugates, bioresponsive polymers for gene therapy, and smart materials for biomolecular recognition in solution and at surfaces. He has published extensively in leading journals including Nature Materials and Nature Chemistry, providing seminal contributions on the use of polymers in a range of biological environments, and for synthetic biology. Cameron has successfully established the EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Advanced Therapeutics and Nanomedicine and is the UK PI for 'NanoFar', the first European Erasmus Mundus joint doctorate in Nanomedicine.

Macro Group UK Young Researchers Medal

The Macro Group UK Young Researchers Medal is awarded annually to a UK-based scientist with up to 12 years of experience since completion of PhD on December 31st of the preceding year (exclusive of career breaks) and whose contributions to polymer science show outstanding promise for the future.

This year award has been made to **Dr. Paul D. Topham** (Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry, Aston University).



Dr. Topham obtained his PhD in 2006 from the University of Sheffield. Following this he undertook a post-doctoral research position, working for Unilever. He was appointed as a Lecturer at the University of Aston in 2008 and was recently promoted to a Reader position (2013). His research focuses on the synthesis, development and application of well-defined polymer systems to address issues of both fundamental and industrial importance. His current research interests include organic solar cells, rubber technology, electrospinning, microphase separation, click chemistry, tissue engineering, cell therapy, drug delivery, polymer fibres and water purification. Paul's work has led to numerous papers and some collaborations with companies such as Robinson Brothers Ltd and Belectric OPV GmbH and with a Chinese University. Paul is an Associate Editor of Wiley journal, Polymer International and has been Treasurer/Co-organiser of Recent Appointees in Polymer Science (RAPS).

MacroGroup UK Awards

Professor Alexander's medal will be awarded at the RSC Wooley symposium on May 8th at Warwick.

Dr. Topham's medal will be awarded at the YRM, which will also be at Warwick in September (date tba)

for further details

contact Dave Adams
(d.j.adams@liverpool.ac.uk)



Macro Group UK Medal for Outstanding Achievement *

- 2014 E. Rizzardo
- 2012 M. Sawamoto
- 2010 C. J. Hawker
- 2008 M. Antoinetti
- 2006 J.M.J. Fréchet
- 2005 K. Matyjaszewski
- 2004 P. Hodge
- 2003 A.B. Holmes

Macro Group UK Medal

- 2014 C. Alexander
- 2013 U. Steiner
- 2012 H. Colquhoun
- 2011 A. Cooper
- 2010 I. A. Manners
- 2009 A. J. Ryan
- 2008 S.M. Howdle
- 2007 S.P. Armes

Macro Group UK Young Researchers Medal

- 2014 P. D. Topham
- 2013 L. Dougan
- 2012 M. I. Gibson
- 2011 I. Kinloch
- 2010 J.V.M. Weaver
O.A. Scherman
- 2009 A. P. Dove
- 2008 A.F. Miller
R.K O'Reilly
- 2007 R.V. Ulijn

Jon Weaver PhD Prize

- 2013 J. Patterson
- 2012 E. Appel
- 2011 K. Kirkham

* previously known as the Macro Group UK Lectureship and Medal (1997-2005)

Full list of winners available from MGUK web site:
<http://www.macrogrouk.org.uk/>

2015 Founders' Prize to be Awarded to Richard Jones



The 2015 Founders' Prize of the Polymer Physics Group will be awarded to Professor Richard Jones FRS, of the Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Sheffield. The award will be made during the biennial meeting of the Polymer Physics Group, in Manchester (8th-10th September 2015), where he will deliver the Founders' Prize lecture.

Prof. Jones has made major contributions to several aspects of polymer physics over a period of more than two decades. He is well-known as a leader in the field of polymers (synthetic and biological) at interfaces, and a pioneer of the use of ion-beam methods, neutron reflectivity and other experimental methods in their study. His research into polymer surfaces and buried interfaces has thrown up many important findings. In his work on surface-directed spinodal decomposition (Jones et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 1991, **66**, 1326) he demonstrated the important role of the surface in imposing a preferred wavevector onto the phase-separating morphology in polymer blends. He also demonstrated

the presence of capillary waves at buried polymer-polymer interfaces, and the impact of film thickness on the spectrum of these waves and the measured interfacial roughness (Sferrazza et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 1997, **78**, 3693). In another seminal piece of work, the effect of reducing film thickness on depressing the glass transition temperature of polymers was discovered (Keddie, Jones & Cory, *Europhys. Lett.* 1994, **27**, 59). This paper was the starting point for a large amount of research into the mobility of polymers near interfaces and in thin films, which continues to this day (at present, this paper has been cited 1,130 times).

He has also made many other highly significant contributions by taking approaches used to study model polymer systems and using them for other applications. Notable amongst these contributions are his work on phase separation and surface segregation in conjugated polymer films (Chappell et al., *Nature Materials*, 2003, **2**, 616; Jukes et al., *Macromolecules*, 2005, **38**, 2030; Parnell et al *Advanced Materials*, 2010, **22**, 2444), work on phase separation in biopolymer mixtures (Tromp, Rennie and Jones, *Macromolecules*, 1995, **28**, 4129) and work on conformational changes in adsorbed proteins (Ball and Jones, *Langmuir* 1995, **11**, 3542; Green, Hopkinson and Jones, *Langmuir*, 1999, **15**, 5102). Altogether he has over 8000 citations from his ~170 ISI-listed publications, with an h-index of 46. He has contributed strongly to the development of polymer physics and the broader subjects of soft matter and nanotechnology by writing three books: two key textbooks on 'Soft Condensed Matter' and 'Polymers at Surfaces and Interfaces' (co-authored with Randal Richards), and a popular science book on 'Soft Machines: Nanotechnology and Life'.

He served as EPSRC's Senior Strategic Advisor for Nanotechnology from 2007-2009, and has also taken his skills into the fields of public engagement and the promotion of awareness of science. He has strong links with the social science and risk communities, demonstrating the breadth of his skills. In 2003 he co-authored a report, published by the UK's Economic and Social Research Council on 'The Social and Economic Challenges of Nanotechnology'. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 2006 and won the Tabor Prize of the IOP in 2009. He led the Polymer Physics Group as the Chair from 2005 to 2011. He is currently Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research and Innovation at The University of Sheffield. In summary, Professor Jones' international stature in polymer physics is undeniable, and his service to the polymer community in the UK is very substantial.

Paola Carbone Named as 2015 DPOLY Lecturer



The Polymer Physics Group has selected Dr Paola Carbone to be the DPOLY Exchange Lecturer in 2015. She will present a lecture at the March meeting of the American Physical Society (APS), to be held in San Antonio, Texas. Paola is currently a Senior Lecturer in the School of Chemical Engineering and Analytical Science at the University of Manchester.

She previously held an RCUK fellowship at Manchester and in 2006–2008 a Humboldt fellowship in the Department of Chemistry at Technische Universität Darmstadt, Germany. Her research involves the development of new coarse-grained and atomistic models to investigate the structure-property relationships of soft matter systems (polymers, dendrimers, lipids) and liquids (ionic liquids) under equilibrium and non-equilibrium conditions. Recently she has also started a successful collaboration that seeks to develop a new type of selective and ultrafast graphene based membrane (R. K. Joshi, P. Carbone, F. C. Wang, V. G. Kravets, I. V. Grigorieva, H. A. Wu, A. K. Geim, R. R. Nair, *Science*, **2014**, 343, 752) – a collaboration funded by a recent £3M EPSRC grant.

Previous Award Winners

Founders' Prize

- 2001** Professor Sir Sam Edwards (Cambridge)
- 2003** Professor David Bassett (Reading)
- 2005** Professor Dame Julia Higgins (Imperial)
- 2007** Professor Alan Windle (Cambridge)
- 2009** Professor Dame Athene Donald (Cambridge)
- 2011** Professor Thomas McLeish (Durham)
- 2013** Professor Donal Bradley (Imperial)
- 2015** Professor Richard Jones (Sheffield)

PPG/DPOLY Lectureship

- 2009** Dr Aline Miller (Manchester)
Professor Connie Roth (Emory, USA)
- 2011** Professor Guiseppe Battaglia (Sheffield)
Professor Brad Olsen (MIT, USA)
- 2013** Dr James Adams (Surrey)
Professor Rodney Priestley (Princeton, USA)
- 2015** Dr Paola Carbone (Manchester)

Best Student Paper Prize

- 2008** Tao Wang (Surrey)
- 2010** Rita La Spina (Sheffield)
- 2012** Katherine Thomas (Cambridge)
- 2013** Daniel Toolan (Sheffield)

PPG Student Prize Named in Honour of Professor Ian Ward



The Polymer Physics Group has named its Prize for Best Student Publication in honour of Professor Ian Macmillan Ward, FRS. Prof. Ward was one of the Group's founders and served as the PPG Chair from 1971 to 1975. He has made a major contribution to polymer physics in the UK throughout his long and distinguished career. The Ian Macmillan Ward Prize will be awarded every two years to the PhD student who has published the best paper in the period.

He is currently an Emeritus Professor in the School of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Leeds. From 1989-94, he was the first Director of the UK Interdisciplinary Research Centre (IRC) in Polymer Science and Technology (Leeds, Bradford and Durham Universities). He previously was the Head of Basic Physics at ICI Fibres and a Senior Lecturer in the Physics of Materials at the University of Bristol.

In 1983, Ian Ward was elected to the Royal Society in recognition of his contributions. Among his other honours, he has been awarded the Griffith Medal, the Swinburne Medal and the Netlon Medal of the Institute of Materials, the Charles Vernon Boys Medal and the Glazebrook Medal of the IOP, and the Staudinger-Durrer Prize for Materials Science from ETH Zurich. Additionally, he led the setting up of two spin-off companies, Vantage Polymers (for hot compacted self-reinforced composites) and Leeds Lithium Power (for lithium battery technology).

In the early 1960s, Ian Ward had returned to the UK after working in the USA, and he proposed that a group was set up in the UK, similar to the group established by the American Physical Society. The Polymer Physics Group was initiated following an informal meeting between Ian Ward, Andrew Keller, Arthur Charlesby, Geoff Allen and David Whiffen. Ian Ward agreed to act as the Group's Secretary and Treasurer, and Charles Frank agreed to act as the first Chair. Arthur Charlesby offered the Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham as the venue for the inaugural meeting, which was held on April 1-3, 1964. Sir Gordon Sutherland was invited to open this meeting. The original announcement for the meeting is reproduced below. Initially set up as an independent "British Polymer Physics Group", it later became a joint Group of the Institute of Physics and the Chemical Society (later the Royal Society of Chemistry).

A call for nominations for the 2015 Ian Macmillan Ward Prize for the Best Student Publication appears on the next page of this newsletter.

"Meeting on Polymer Physics to be held at the Royal Military
College of Science, Shrivenham, on the 1st - 3rd April, 1964, with a view
to forming a Forum for Polymer Physics in Britain. The scientific programme
will consist of half-day sessions on crystalline morphology, molecular
structure, relaxation processes and viscoelasticity, and properties of solution.

Organizing Committee:

G. Allen, Manchester; A Charlesby, Chrivenham;
A. Keller, Bristol; I.M.Ward, Harrogate;
D.H.Whiffen, Teddington.

The announcement of the first meeting of the Polymer Physics Group April 1964.

PPG Competition Announcement

Ian Macmillan Ward Prize for the Best Student Publication

The Polymer Physics Group (PPG) is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for the Ian MacMillan Ward Prize to recognise the most outstanding publication by a PhD student on a subject within the PPG's remit. The Prize winner will receive a monetary award and will also be invited to present a lecture at the next Polymer Physics Group Biennial Meeting to be held on September 8-10, 2015 at the University of Manchester.

Criteria

The prize will be awarded for the best publication in a journal on a topic of relevance to polymer physics, as judged by the awards committee. The scientific quality, originality and significance of the research will be considered. The nominee must be an author or co-author of the publication. The research reported in the publication must have been carried out as part of the *PhD research* of the applicant. The publication must be publicly available, either on a journal website or in printed format, and the date of publication (as stated by the journal) must be *after* 30 April, 2013. Manuscripts in preparation or under review will *not* be considered for the prize.

Application Procedure

The application for the prize will consist of three items:

A paper or electronic copy of the publication in a journal.

A signed letter (on University letterhead) from the supervisor of the PhD student confirming that the research was carried out by the applicant as part of PhD research.

A statement from the applicant (or nominee) outlining the significance of the publication.

The application should be submitted to the PPG Honorary Secretary, Prof. Aline Miller (Manchester Institute of Biotechnology, University of Manchester, 131 Princess Street, Manchester M1 7DN; e-mail: Aline.Miller@manchester.ac.uk). Applications must be received by **30 April, 2015**.

Applicants should separately submit an abstract for their oral presentation on the IOP Conference website (<http://paps15.iopconfs.org>) in the usual way.

MacroGroup Competition Announcement

The Jon Weaver PhD Prize 2014

MacroGroup UK are delighted to announce **the MacroGroup UK "Jon Weaver PhD Prize"** sponsored by Synthomer– directed at rewarding the best PhD students in the field of Polymer Science in the UK. The prize will be awarded to a PhD student who has displayed an outstanding ability across a range of criteria throughout their PhD. The recipient will receive a certificate and will be invited to deliver a prize lecture.

Nominations

The Macro Group UK PhD Prize is open to scientists who have received their PhD from a UK-based institution. Self-nomination is acceptable, however nominations should consist of:

- 1) A covering letter from the nominee (1 page maximum) describing how the nominee fits the selection criterion;
- 2) A letter from the PhD supervisor on headed paper (1 page maximum), confirming that the student has submitted a corrected thesis
- 3) A letter from the external examiner of the thesis (examiners report is NOT submissible), in which the date of the viva is specified.
- 4) Thesis abstract
- 5) A brief (1 - 4 page) CV of the nominee including publications list.

The prize will be judged by a sub-committee considering the following criteria:

- Award of PhD between 1st January and 31st December 2014 (note submission of a corrected thesis is sufficient; the University does not have to have formally awarded the degree certificate).
- Evidence of transition to independence
- Fit to MacroGroup UK remit
- Quality and quantity of publications/outputs
- Novelty of Work
- Communication of Science
- The student MUST be a member of MacroGroup to be eligible



Applications must be sent electronically to Dr Dave Adams: d.j.adams@liverpool.ac.uk prior to the deadline. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Closing date: 30th March 2015, midnight.

MacroGroup Bursaries

D H Richards Memorial Bursaries (Macro Group UK)

- Are you:**
- A student or postdoctoral researcher (PDRA) member of Macro Group UK?
 - Desperate to go to an important conference?
 - Short of all the funding needed?

then the DH Richards Memorial Bursaries scheme can help you!

About the bursaries

Macro Group set up the bursaries as a memorial to D H Richards, who was one of the founding officers of Macro Group and worked hard to establish it as a major group in the UK. Under this scheme, Macro Group sets aside funds each year to support its student and PDRA members that wish to attend a major conference in the area of polymer science, but are short of funds to make this happen. Only one student or PDRA from a particular research group will be granted a bursary for a particular conference. A student or PDRA can only receive one bursary award during their period of study. The applicant must be a current Macro Group member, have their supervisor's support, and be planning to make an oral or poster contribution at the conference. It is expected that part of the funds needed to attend the conference will be obtained from other sources. The maximum bursary amount awarded will be £300 for a meeting in the UK and £500 for a meeting overseas. As a condition of receiving a bursary award, the student or PDRA will be required to write a short report on the conference they attended for publication in the Bulletin.

How to apply

Application forms can be obtained from the Macro Group Secretary or directly downloaded from the Macro Group web site (<http://www.macrogroup.org.uk/awards/bursaries.php>). The *completed application form must be sent* via email *by the applicant's supervisor* to Dr Dave Adams in accord with the following two deadlines - 1 November and 1 May. Decisions will normally be announced less than 4 weeks after the deadline.

IOP Research Student Conference Fund (available to PPG students)

The Institute of Physics provides financial support to research students to attend international meetings and major national meetings.*

Student bursaries; Research Student Conference Fund (RSCF) bursaries are available to PhD students who are a member of the IOP and of an appropriate IOP group. The IOP handles the application process but it is the relevant IOP group that makes the decision on whether to award the bursary and its value. Students may apply for up to £250 during the course of their PhD. Students may apply more than once, for example they may request the full amount or decide to request a smaller amount and then apply for funding again for another conference at a later stage.

Groups have limited funds to award bursaries and so students may not receive the full amount they have requested. If the full amount is not awarded students may apply again to receive further support for a different conference until they reach £250 overall.

Note that grants will normally cover only part of the expenses incurred in attending a conference and are intended to supplement grants from other sources.

All recipients are asked to produce a conference report for IOP and for publication in the Bulletin.

How to apply; RSCF applications are considered on a quarterly basis and should reach the Institute by: 1 March, 1 June, 1 September or 1 December; a decision will be made within eight weeks of the closing date. Your application must reach IOP by the deadline which is at least **three months** before the conference you wish to attend. It is strongly recommended that you submit your application early. For application details and an application form visit the IOP website under 'Support and Grants' (http://www.iop.org/about/grants/research_student/page_38808.html).

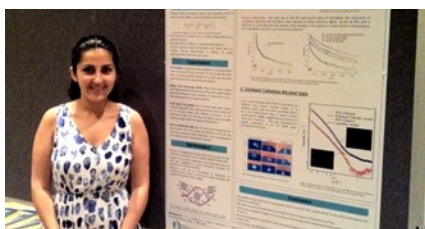
For further information please contact supportandgrants@iop.org.

* Please note that bursaries are not available for meetings organised by the Institute of Physics including those organised by IOP Groups.

Bursaries & Conference Reports

TAPPI International Conference on Nanotechnology for Renewable Materials

23-26th June 2014, Vancouver, Canada



I attended the TAPPI's 9th international conference on Nanotechnology for Renewable Materials in Vancouver where the main focus was on the transition of biomaterials into high-value products. The cellulose nanocrystals (CNCs) and cellulose nanofibrils (CNFs) were at the centre of the conference. The conference programme was packed with over 25 sessions of which all delivered very interesting topics including CNCs processing, rheology, medical applications, foams & hydrogels, alternative sources for cellulose and nanoparticle characterisation. My research work is based on TEMPO-oxidised cellulose gels which can be used as a non-irritant rheology modifier and therefore can be used as a sustainable alternative for an additive in personal care product formulations. Hence, this conference was of great relevance to my research and it was pleasant to see colleagues and companies with many interesting talks on cellulose materials which not only enhanced my understanding on cellulose research but also widened my vision on the job opportunities available in the sector. On the first day of the conference I visited the Advanced Materials and Process Engineering Laboratory (AMPEL) at the University of British Columbia which was remarkable in terms of understanding the research transition from academia to industrial product design since many of the research groups at AMPEL were in direct collaboration with the companies. This was also the first time that I witnessed a 3D printer and electrospinning of cellulose fibrils in action! I presented my work with a poster on TEMPO-oxidised cellulose gels with surfactants & salts and it was well received. I also had the opportunity to exchange ideas with the leading researchers in the area and explained the techniques I used for analysis (small angle x-ray scattering and neutron reflectivity) which not many people had a prior knowledge of. Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Macro Group UK for granting me a D. H. Richards Travel Bursary which enabled me to benefit from such a great experience.

Duygu Celebi (University of Bath)

Bursaries & Conference Reports

Macro 2014 Congress

6 -11th July 2014 , ChiangMai, Thailand



The IUPAC World Polymer Congress is one of the most popular worldwide meeting in applied science, and took place this year in ChiangMai. The conference was divided into fifteen major topics ranging from novel synthesis routes to processability and final properties, nanotechnology to environmental application, polymer characterisation to biomaterials and electronics. Almost 1100 delegates from 49 countries illustrated their results with oral and poster contributions. Numerous projects focused on the production and designing of nanoparticles using block copolymers. Indeed, one of the congress plenary lecture titled 'Self-organised multicompartment nanostructures from triblock terpolymers' by Professor Axel Muller from the Johannes Gutenberg-Universitat Mainz Institut fur Organische Chemie (Germany). The importance given to nanoparticles was the reason for attending, and gave me a good opportunity to present the research I lead at the University of Manchester's School of Materials. Nanoparticles can be both inorganic, such as metal nanoparticles (gold), organic as polymer nanoparticles (PNPs) or a combination of the two types (organometallic particles). PNPs in particular are an increasing field of research due to the large number of potential applications in materials, medicine and electronics. They can be mainly produced via precipitation, or the collapse of preformed polymer, or polymerisation in situ. The nature of the polymer and the procedure parameters are fundamental to control properties and the morphology of the nanoparticles. At Macro 2014 I showed a new route for the production of polyurea nanoparticles developed with Huntsman polyurethanes. The effect of the chemical structure and block composition on particles morphology and formation were presented with an oral contribution. Unlike the standard techniques, this new procedure does not involve a preformed polymer nor an emulsion polymerisation. Both the polymerisation and the nanoprecipitation occur in the same solvent within an hour and on grams-scale. Although less delegates than expected attended Macro2014, It was pleasant to see the number of people present during my presentation. The plenary room where I presented was almost filled with an audience both from university and industry. They took pictures of the slides and at the end they asked for further information about the formation of the nanoparticles and potential applications. They were evidently struck by the novelty and originality of this procedure. This was most gratifying for the work done and highly motivating for future plans. My attendance at Macro 2014 was extremely useful for my PhD and brought interesting new ideas for further developments. It was also a good opportunity to meet researchers in an early stage of their career. This encouraged vivid conversations and helped to establish new connections. In conclusion, a great experience both on a professional and personal level. I would like to thank PPG and MacroGroup for partial funding of this trip (via the IOP research student fund and D. H. Richards bursary).

Pietro Locatelli (Manchester University)

UK Colloids 2014

7 - 9th July 2014, London, UK



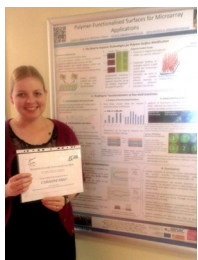
UK Colloids 2014 was the second colloid science conference in this series and it was held at the Mermaid Theatre in London (*editor; a more detailed report on this event is given later in this issue— see page 18.*) It was organised by the RSC Colloid and Interface Science Group and the SCI Colloid and Surface Chemistry Group. More than 100 talks were distributed into four main themes: Synthesis and Design, Characterisation, Applications and Nanomaterials. In my opinion, the conference organisation was a success and allowed the participants to easily select their scientific topics of interest. The conference was very dynamic and it covered a wide range of exciting brand new subjects, which allowed me to increase my knowledge in different scientific areas. In particular, it was very interesting listening to the most recent advances in nanomaterials biodistribution, biodegradation and their role in different drug delivery systems. It was also a great opportunity for networking and to share my work with other researchers. The friendly environment made it easy to know other PhD students and early career researchers. Unexpectedly, everyone was also delighted to have the opportunity to see The Tour de France cycle race outside the Mermaid theatre. Finally, I would like to thank the Macro group UK for their generosity in awarding me the DH Richards bursary which allowed me to participate in such valuable conference.

Diana Garcia (University of Kent)

Bursaries & Conference Reports

13th European Training Course on Carbohydrates

13-17th April, 2014, Wageningen, The Netherlands

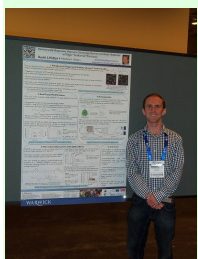


The Summer Course in Glycosciences (13th European Training Course on Carbohydrates), was held in Wageningen. It was a well-attended course and there were participants from across Europe with backgrounds in Chemistry, Biology and Medicine. The format of the course (university style teaching lectures from experts in the field) was excellent and provided me with the opportunity to extend my knowledge and also learn about new areas of carbohydrate chemistry, which will be very useful during my PhD research and beyond. There were extensive networking opportunities and I enjoyed the opportunity to speak with other PhD students, academics and people from industry. I presented my research as a poster and was awarded the first poster prize, as voted for by the course attendees. As a prize I was given the opportunity to give a fifteen minute oral presentation of my work, to the entire conference, on the final day. As well as being a great learning experience, this will have allowed me to become better known within the research field, as I was the only student to present at the conference. I would like to thank Macrogroup UK for awarding me a DH Richards bursary that allowed me to attend this very valuable training course.

Caroline Biggs (Warwick University)

248th ACS National Meeting and Exhibition

10-14th August, 2014, San Francisco, CA, USA



In August 2014, I was fortunate to attend the 248th ACS National Meeting and Exhibition held in San Francisco, California. This was the first time I had attended an ACS meeting and although I had heard impressive reports from colleagues who had attended previously, I was still staggered by the sheer size of the whole event. Over 15,000 delegates attended a programme comprising in excess of 1,000 scientific sessions on a variety of subject areas ranging from Agricultural Chemistry through to Polymeric Materials Science and Engineering. Considering this, the meeting provided me with the unique opportunity to hear work on a diverse range of topics from individuals at all career stages ranging from students to eminent professors. Indeed, it is difficult to imagine another event in which talks on diverse subjects such as chemokine receptors, spectroscopic microscopy, peptidomimetic "triplex" metallohelices, DNA nanotags and controlled radical polymerisation methodologies, could all be heard before lunch on the first day! During the conference I was able to present a poster summarising some of my recent work describing the development of "isothermally responsive polymers for therapeutic delivery and diagnostics". The work demonstrated by all those in attendance was of impressive quality and I was able to hold discussions with a number of fellow researchers whose valuable input has helped shape some future research ideas. In addition to scientific discussion, I also learnt, amongst other subjects, the ins and outs of the American education system, as well as the intricacies of baseball otherwise unknown to me! Despite the hectic conference schedule, there was still some time to explore San Francisco. Particularly worthwhile was a 13 mile walk encompassing Fisherman's Wharf (and the famous crab chowder!), the incredibly impressive Golden Gate Bridge and the beautiful town of Sausalito, followed by a ferry trip back to the San Francisco shore past the historical wonder that is Alcatraz. Seeing it up close, it is easy to see how no prisoners managed to escape (or at least how the few that did were never seen again to tell the tale)! For anyone considering it, I would highly recommend San Francisco as a place to visit; though I did underestimate the chill of the sea breeze so was thankful for the last minute decision to pack some long-sleeved shirts! My attendance at this conference has really opened my eyes to the huge range of research areas being explored throughout the world, beyond those in which I have found myself particularly engrossed throughout my PhD. It enabled me to communicate ideas to individuals whom one may not ordinarily come across and also led to potential collaborations following a beer with international colleagues! Finally, heartfelt thanks go to my supervisor, Dr Matthew Gibson, and particularly to the Macro Group UK D. H. Richards' Memorial Fund for providing financial support, without which my attendance would not have been possible. The whole experience was excellent and I would thoroughly recommend it to my fellow students. I am now looking at ways of attending the ACS meeting!

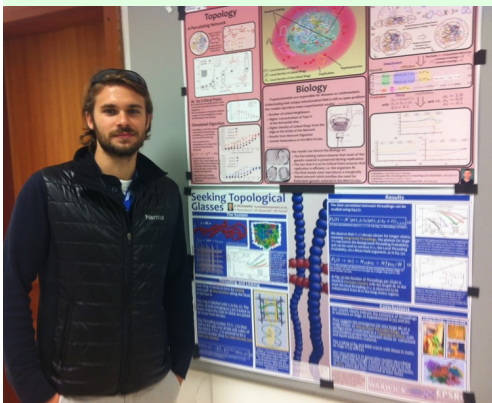
Daniel Phillips (Warwick University)

Bursaries & Conference Reports

Interdisciplinary Views on Chromosome Structure and Function

Workshop 15-19 September 2014, Trieste, Italy

This workshop represented a great opportunity for me to present my recent work on the dynamics of ring polymers in gels to a broad and interested audience. During the meeting I had the chance to attend the talks of important figures in the field, among which Prof. Job Dekker, Prof. Cristian Micheletti and Prof. H. Schiessel stood out. This workshop managed to attract a very mixed audience, and the topics of the talks were very inter-disciplinary themselves. I believe that both physicists and biologists had the chance to learn a lot from each other. The highlight of the workshop was probably the talk of Prof. Peter Fraser, who described a very innovative single-cell HiC experimental procedure (Nagano T. *et al.* Nature 2013, **502** 59-64) to precisely identify the so called, "topologically associated domains" (or TADs), which describe the physical interaction between different genes inscribed in the chromosomes.



These TADs have been at the centre of many of the talks of this meeting, and have been investigated by both computational models and experiments. Personally, I learned very much from these talks, as it was the first time I had the possibility to hear directly from people working with chromosomes. I believe that great insight can be brought into this field by the polymer physics community, as Dr. Ralf Everaers and Dr. Angelo Rosa showed in recently published work (Rosa A. and Everaers R. PRL 2014, **112** 118302) (and whom I also met at the workshop). Finally, I also had the chance to strengthen the collaboration with Prof. Enzo Orlandini and Dr. Davide Marenduzzo, with whom I worked on topics which produced papers recently published in high impact journals (Micheletto D. *et al.* ACS Macro Lett. 2014, **3** 255-259, Micheletto D. *et al.* Soft Matter 2014, **10** 5936-5944), and with whom I have an ongoing and fruitful collaboration. Thanks to the IOP Polymer Physics Group for the award of a travel bursary.

Davide Micheletto (University of Warwick)

Conference and Meeting Reports

The Physics of Self Assembling Biopolymers

1 September 2014, 28 Portland Place, London, UK

A small and selective group met for a one day meeting in London on the subject of "The Physics of Self Assembling Biopolymers". We heard talks from a range of speakers and topics, from diffraction methods used to better understand protein structures, to the production of Penrose tiled block co-polymer vesicles. We also had a small poster session during the breaks. With such a small group of people (~22) it was noticeable that the quality of the discussions after the talks was very high. People also appreciated the friendly networking during the breaks. We will perhaps look to run this meeting again next year.



Steve Eichhorn (University of Exeter)

Conference and Meeting Reports

Careers in Polymer Science: Beyond Academia

29th October 2014, Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Didcot, UK

I attended this event having only started my PhD a few weeks before, and was therefore unsure of how relevant this event would be for me. However I was keen to find out what options there were for me after my PhD and, in particular, if there was anything extra I could do during my PhD to help my chances of getting a good graduate job.

After a brief introduction from each of the speakers the presentations began with two speakers from industry (Beth Green, Akzo Nobel; Harry Frampton, BP). Should a PhD graduate choose to leave academia, a career in industry is a natural alternative for most. Harry Frampton has been working in industry for many years and is now semi-retired; hearing about his innovations in the oil industry, as well as his transition from one company to another was undeniably interesting. It was easy to see he had far more to offer than his 20 minute allocation would allow; I was sure to seek him out at lunch to speak to him further about his career in industry.

More presentations followed, with talks from patent lawyer, Mark Bell and publishers, Katherine Thomas and Nicola Wise. These talks highlighted how you can transfer reading skills you pick up during a PhD into a well-paid career. Tom Whipple, science correspondent at The Times followed. His presentation described a day in his life at The Times, which everyone found incredibly enjoyable. These careers outside of research had never occurred to me as an option before this event; I left the event thinking that a career in writing would be something I would love to do.

I tracked down Tom Whipple during a break to speak with him further about a career in journalism. He was incredibly helpful; he gave me advice on writing as a student and building up a portfolio, contacting publishers with ideas for articles, even going as far to give me his personal email address. Following his advice I now regularly write for a student newspaper, building up a portfolio should I choose to pursue a career in science journalism.

Finally, we were given the opportunity to speak in small groups to the speakers about job interviews, working abroad and CV writing, as well as any other questions which may not have been answered during the day.

I left the event with all the information I had hoped to get and more. The speakers were all very knowledgeable and all the attendees had a great day, despite the horrible October rains. Even as a first year PhD student I found this event very relevant and helpful. I can't recommend this type of event highly enough to any PhD student.

David Makepeace (University of Surrey)

Conference and Meeting Reports

UK Colloids 2014

7 - 9th July 2014, London, UK

In July, the Joint Colloid Committee organised a three day conference at The Mermaid Theatre in London (the website can still be viewed [here](#)). This is the second triennial multi-day conference in this series and provided an excellent opportunity for colloid and interface scientists from both the UK and overseas to meet, present and discuss issues related to current developments in the fields of Colloid, Interface and Biomedical Nanoparticle science. This meeting was organized jointly with the Institute of Physics Polymer Physics Group and the UK Polymer Forum. The conference was attended by ~300 delegates from 28 different countries and spanned a wide variety of research interests from both academia and industry. On the first day of the conference, the delegates were provided with a bonus event, with the Tour de France cycle race passing directly in front of the venue.

Prior to the start of the main conference, a welcome reception was held at the Royal Institution, which allowed delegates an opportunity to view the Faraday gold sol. The main conference commenced each day with a plenary lecture. Plenary Lectures were provided by Professor Julian Eastoe (University of Bristol), Professor Ken Dawson (University College, Dublin) and Professor Ray Dagastine (University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia) and covered a wide range of science which highlighted that the design of the molecular and nano structure of colloidal systems is vital in understanding and controlling the resultant micro and macro behaviour and properties. Professor Steve Armes (Sheffield University) gave the Thomas Graham Lecture.



A

Malcolm Faers presents Steve Armes with a certificate for the Thomas Graham Lecture

The level of interest in the UK Colloids Conference was even greater than for the first meeting (in 2011) and the meeting ran with four parallel sessions on the first day and three parallel sessions on each of the other two days. This allowed ~125 presentations (including keynote and invited lectures) to be given, which highlighted the breadth of subjects to which colloid and interface science is applied. Throughout the conference, a scientific exhibition was held.

A drinks reception and poster session was held on the second day of the conference and ~90 posters were presented. This event was sponsored by Stephan. The organising Committee awarded two prizes for: "Most Innovative Science" chosen by conference delegates and "Best Student Poster" chosen by a panel of highly distinguished scientists.

The 'Colloid Physics' session sponsored by PPG/IOP received great feedback from attendees and featured Paul Clegg (U. Edinburgh) speaking about using demixing, remixing and wetting to organize colloidal particles and Yujun Feng (Sichuan U., China) on CO₂ switchable wormlike micelles.

Conference and Meeting Reports

The conference dinner was held at the Park Plaza Riverbank Hotel which provided excellent views of the Houses of Parliament. The dinner was sponsored by Infineum.

The organising committee would like to thank our exhibitors and sponsors for their support- AGC Chemicals, Infineum, Stepan, Formumetrics, Malvern, Bayer Crop Science, Science & Medical Products, Biolin Scientific, Izon, Escubed and Metrics.

The Organising Committee were delighted with the response to UK Colloids 2014. Registrations increased (by an additional 50 delegates) from the 2011 meeting, resulting in the provision of an additional technical session on the first day of the meeting. The quality of talks and posters presented was excellent. Feedback from delegates has been extremely positive. Organising such a large meeting is a substantial undertaking and has involved the entire Joint Colloid Committee and I am very thankful to them for their efforts, in particular my co organisers Dr. Malcolm Faers and Dr. Jeroen van Duijneveldt. I would also like to acknowledge the fantastic work of our conference organiser Deborah Reed-Aspley (Constable & Smith Events) without whom we could not have organised this conference.

The feedback from delegates (and from members more widely) is that there is a demand for UK-based multi-day meetings in Colloid & Interface Science. We are already discussing Colloids 2017 and if any members wish to become involved in organising this event, please contact the committee.

Peter Dowding (Chair UK Colloids 2014).

Macro Group Young Researchers' Meeting

24th-25th July 2014, Durham, UK

The Macro Group UK, a joint subject group of the SCI and the RSC, has for many years held an annual meeting to showcase the work of PhD students and post-docs. The 2014 Young Researchers' Meeting was held at Durham University over 2 days, towards the end of July. The event was extremely well supported with over 130 registered delegates, almost 90 posters and 19 oral presentations from early career researchers (ECRs). The ECR presenters were supported by 3 keynote talks from established polymer science researchers: Prof Aline Miller of the University of Manchester; Prof Bill MacDonald of DuPont Teijin Films; and Prof Sebastien Perrier of the University of Warwick. The ECR presentations were of an extremely high standard and covered all aspects of polymer science: from basic to applied science; and from polymer synthesis to physics and modelling. The quality of the presentations was rewarded by prizes given to the top three poster and oral presentations. The excellent science, friendly atmosphere, opportunity to make new contacts and the sunny weather meant that the 2 day event was enjoyed by all who attended.

Neil Cameron (Chairman Macro Group)

Forthcoming Meetings & Conferences

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DESTINATION AND VENUE

With its unique baroque heritage, notable art treasures, architectural landmarks and charming landscape, Dresden is one of the most beautiful cities in Germany and beyond.

The congress is held in the modern and ample International Congress Centre Dresden (ICCD) located at the banks of the river Elbe in direct neighbourhood and with splendid view to the marvellous city centre of Dresden.



DEADLINES

Abstract submission	January 15, 2015
Notification on acceptance	March 15, 2015
Early registration	April 15, 2015

www.epf2015.org

EUROPEAN POLYMER CONGRESS
JUNE 21–26, 2015
DRESDEN
GERMANY

INVITATION

On behalf of the European Polymer Federation (EPF), the German Chemical Society (GDCh) and the Leibniz-Institut für Polymerforschung Dresden e.V. (IPF) it is my honor and pleasure to invite you to the European Polymer Federation Congress 2015.

Polymeric materials are essential for a sustainable development of the society and the basis for innovations in modern technologies. They contribute significantly to advance in life science, mobility, and communication technologies, and address essential challenges of energy and environment. All these cutting-edge topics will be in the focus of the congress.

Invited plenary and keynote talks given by renowned speakers from leading international groups as well as numerous contributed papers and posters will present latest trends and results. With the topics chosen and the expected high number of participants from different areas of polymer science and neighbouring fields, the EPF congress will be a platform for inspiring international and interdisciplinary exchange at the forefront of polymer science. Hence, it will provide breeding grounds and act as a catalyst for novel co-operative approaches beyond traditional disciplines and co-operations between research and industry, which are necessary to cope with the challenges polymer science is facing.

Brigitte Voit
President of the European Polymer Federation



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

We invite you to submit abstracts for oral and poster contributions related to the congress topics by January 15, 2015.

Please submit your one-page abstract prepared strictly according to the guidelines online via the congress website.

EXHIBITION AND SPONSORING

An industrial exhibition is integrated in the congress program and will be installed at the exclusive terrace floor of the conference venue. For details on options and conditions for exhibitors and sponsors please consult the website or contact the organizers.

INFORMATION ABOUT SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM, EXHIBITION AND SPONSORING, CONFERENCE LOCATION

Kerstin Wustrack
Leibniz-Institut für Polymerforschung Dresden e.V. (IPF)
Phone: +49 351 4658-282
E-mail: epf2015@ipfdd.de

INFORMATION ABOUT ABSTRACT SUBMISSION, REGISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION

Kerstin Gajek
Silvia Kirrwald
Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker e.V.
Phone: +49 69 7917 358
E-mail: s.kirrwald@gdch.de

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Published: August 2014

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JUNE 21 – 26, 2015 · DRESDEN · GERMANY

CALL FOR PAPERS

EUROPEAN
POLYMER
CONGRESS



www.epf2015.org

TOPICS

- ◆ Advances in macromolecular synthesis: From precision polymer structures towards interactive polymer materials
- ◆ Nanomaterials and composites: Preparation, characterization, processing, modelling, application
- ◆ Polymers meet biology: Bioinspired and bioactive polymers, biohybrids and polymers at the biointerface
- ◆ From polymer science to soft matter science
- ◆ More with less: Polymers address challenges of resources, sustainability, and energy efficiency
- ◆ The post-silicon age: Polymer and organic electronics
- ◆ European Australian Symposium

PLENARY SPEAKERS

Kristie Anseth	University of Colorado Boulder, USA
Vincenzo Busico	Università de Napoli, Italy
Antonio Facchetti	North Western University, USA
Ilias Iliopoulos	ARKEMA, France
Eugenia Kumacheva	University of Toronto, Canada
Tom McLeish	University of Durham, United Kingdom
Klaus Müllen	Max Planck Institute of Polymer Research Mainz, Germany
Karen Wooley	Texas A&M University, USA

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Chris Ober	USA

Forthcoming Meetings & Conferences

The 27th biennial meeting of the Polymer Physics Group will be held at the University of Manchester on 8th -10th September 2015. This event will provide an opportunity for researchers from both academia and industry to discuss the latest innovations in understanding and manipulating the physical behaviour of a wide range of polymeric systems.

This international conference will include the **2015 Founders' prize lecture**, given by **Professor Richard Jones FRS** (University of Sheffield) and the **Ian Macmillan Ward Prize** for the best student publication. The conference will contain presentations across a broad range of topics, with contributed presentations welcomed from postgraduate students and established researchers alike. Confirmed invited speakers are;

Dr. Lorna Dougan, University of Leeds
"Single Molecule Studies of Proteins from Extremophile Organisms"

Dr. Ralf Everaers, ENS de Lyon
"Topologically Constrained Polymers: From Rubber Elasticity to Chromosome Structure"

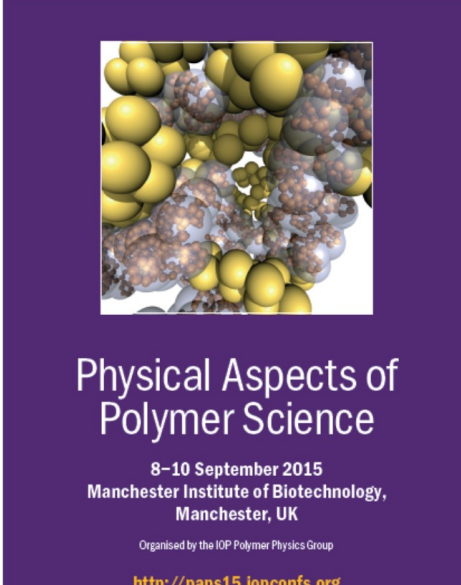
Prof. Kohzo Ito, University of Tokyo
"Slide-Ring Materials with Movable Cross-links and Entropy of Rings"

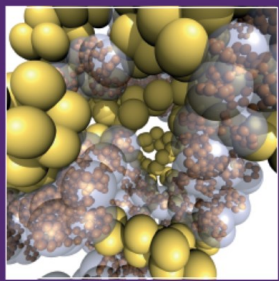
Prof. David Morse, University of Minnesota
"The Principle of Corresponding States in Block Copolymer Melts"

Key dates

- **Abstract submission deadline:** 27 May 2015
- **Abstract submission deadline (poster only):** 4 August
- **Early registration deadline:** 4 August 2015
- **Registration deadline:** 1 September 2015

Further details including sponsorship/exhibition opportunities are available on the IOP conference website <http://paps15.iopconfs.org/home>).




**Physical Aspects of
Polymer Science**
 8–10 September 2015
 Manchester Institute of Biotechnology,
 Manchester, UK
Organised by the IOP Polymer Physics Group
<http://paps15.iopconfs.org>



E-MRS 2015 - Spring Meeting
Congress Centre (Grand Palais) - Lille, France
 May 11-15, 2015



Symposium topics

MATERIALS FOR ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
MATERIALS FOR OPTICS AND OPTOELECTRONICS
MULTIFUNCTIONAL OXIDES
ORGANIC AND BIO-MATERIALS
MATERIALS FOR ADVANCED ELECTRONICS
ADVANCED MATERIALS SYNTHESIS, PROCESSING AND CHARACTERIZATION

Website: http://www.emrs-strasbourg.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=800&Itemid=1652

Deadline for abstract submission: **January 15, 2015**

Forthcoming Meetings & Conferences

Join us in the Gold Coast for 35APS

REGISTER NOW

Program at a Glance:

Sun 12 July 2015	Sessions & Welcome Reception
Mon 13 July 2015	Symposium Sessions & Poster Presentations
Tues 14 July 2015	Symposium Sessions
Wed 15 July 2015	Sessions & Symposium Dinner

Please visit the symposium website for updated information on themes, abstract submission, invited speakers and symposium program.

www.35aps.org.au



35th Australasian
POLYMER SYMPOSIUM



12-15 July 2015
QT Hotel, Gold Coast
www.35aps.org.au

Plenaries include:

Prof Mats Andersson (University of South Australia, Australia)

Prof Werner Blau (East China University of Science and Technology, China)

Prof Bjorn Torgar Stokke (Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway)

Prof Mitch Winnik (University of Toronto, Canada)

Invited Keynote Speakers Include:

Dr Elodie Bourgeat-Lami (The laboratory of Chemistry, Catalysis, Polymers and Process (C2P2), France)

Prof Jiandong Ding (Fudan University, China)

Prof David Haddleton (University of Warwick, USA)

A/Prof Eva Harth (Vanderbilt University, USA)

Dr Kevin Jack (The University of Queensland, Australia)

Prof Shyiong Liu (University of Science & Technology of China)

Prof Zhibo Liu (Institute of Chemistry, The Chinese Academy of Sciences, China)

Prof Christine Luscombe (University of Washington, USA)

Prof Brian Hawkeff (University of Sydney, Australia)

A/Prof Stephen Moratti (University of Otago, NZ)

Dr Ebinazar Namdas (University of Queensland, Australia)

A/Prof Kotaro Satoh (Nagoya University, Japan)

A/Prof Prashant Sonar (Queensland University of Technology, Australia)

Prof Martina Stenzel (The University of New South Wales, Australia)

Dr Georgina Such (The University of Melbourne, Australia)

Assoc Prof Jeff Wiggins (University of Southern Mississippi, USA)

Dr Wallace Wong (The University of Melbourne, Australia)

Forthcoming Meetings & Conferences



Key Dates

Deadline for Titles: *May 1st, 2015*
 Deadline for Abstract: *May 22nd, 2015*
 Decision on accepted papers: *June 3rd, 2015*
 Deadline for early registration fee: *June 15th*
 Poster submissions may be submitted up to August 15th 2015. For submission of title and abstract please see the PDDG web-site at www.PDDG.org.

Abstract Format

Abstracts should be brief and no longer than 1 page of A4 including figures in Microsoft Word format. Please comply with the following format:

Title: 14, bold, center (Arial);
Authors: 12, bold center (Arial)
Affiliation: 12, center, Italic (Arial);
Headings: 12, bold, left (Arial); Main Text: 12, Justify (Arial);
Reference format (typical example)[1]. Bloggs M, *Polym. Deg. Stab.* 2004;83:157.

All Posters - Should be A1 portrait size



The PDDG

The PDDG meets every second year, to encourage open and unscripted discussion of all aspects of ageing, degradation and stabilisation of polymers, in an informal atmosphere, and to give younger researchers the opportunity to meet and discuss their work. One of the main objectives of the group is to promote awareness and keep pace with new developments within this specialised area.

The conference covers thermoplastics, nanocomposites, foams, adhesives and coatings in the environment, and for advanced applications. The topics covered include materials used in defence or nuclear industries, agriculture, waste and pollution control, recycling, pipe, transportation, construction (paints, coatings, geo-plastics and marine). We particularly welcome papers on the following:

- Ionising radiation effects
- Modelling at the material, multi-material and system level for insights into ageing, performance and life assessment.
- Polymer modification and performance
- AM foams research and development
- Developments in diagnostic sensors and trials.
- Polymer ageing and compatibility studies
- Nanocomposite technology
- Biodegradation, Oxidative and Photo degradation
- Stabilisation strategies for different applications

The Venue

On behalf of the PDDG, this conference will be hosted by KTH, Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden. With its 750 year history and rich cultural life, Stockholm offers a wide selection of world-class museums and attractions.

For listing of nearby hotels and instructions on travel to the venue please visit the PDDG web-site at www.PDDG.org. Note that delegates are responsible for organising their own hotel and travel arrangements.

RSC | Advancing the
Chemical Sciences

POLYMER DEGRADATION DISCUSSION GROUP

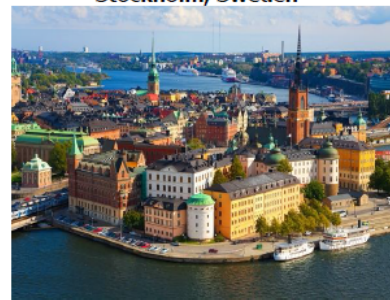
A Sub-Group of Macro Group UK

31th Meeting - Call for Oral and Poster Contributions

Polymer Degradation, Life Assessment and Stability

Aug 30 – 3 Sep, 2015

**KTH, Royal Institute of Technology,
Stockholm, Sweden**



Speakers

Dr. Michele Edge
(Manchester Metropolitan University, UK)

Prof. Sahar Al-Malaika
(University of Aston in Birmingham, UK)

Prof. Xavier Colin
(Arts et Métiers ParisTech, France)

Prof. Jean-Luc Gardette
(Université Blaise Pasca, France)

Dr Jim Lewicki/Robert Maxwell
(Lawrence Livermore National Lab, USA)

Prof. Ulf W. Gedde
(KTH, Stockholm, Sweden)

Prof Graeme George
(Queensland University, Australia)

Dr Mogan Patel/Mathew Robinson
(Atomic Weapons Establishment, UK)



CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

The PDDG committee invites paper/poster contributions for its next conference Stockholm, Sweden. A number of distinguished speakers that have provisionally agreed to participate are shown in the list of lectures.

The committee particularly wishes to encourage younger scientists to participate (especially PhD students). With this in mind, there will be three prizes of £50 plus a certificate, for the three poster contributions from students which are judged by the PDDG committee to be the best.

Delegates wishing to make an oral or poster presentation should submit a title and abstract by visiting the PDDG website at www.PDDG.org.

Agenda

Specific dates and times for registration, reception party and conference dinner will be available on the PDDG website. The conference lectures will begin early Monday morning 31st August and finish early afternoon on Thursday 3rd September, 2015

Contacts

Dr. Mogan Patel (PDDG)
Organic Materials, Building B8A, AWE, Aldermaston, Reading RG7 4PR, UK; mogon.patel@awe.co.uk

Prof. Ulf W. Gedde (Local Host)
KTH, Stockholm gedde@kth.se

Prof. Sahar Al-Malaika (Chair)
Aston University, Aston Triangle, Birmingham, UK
S.Al-Malaika@aston.ac.uk

Prof. Norman S. Allen (Treasurer)
157 Carr Lane, Chorley, Lancashire PR73JX
allennorman71@yahoo.com

REGISTRATION DETAILS

The registration fees for this conference are shown below:

	Registration fee (£)	
(Circle as appropriate)	Early*	Late
All Delegates -----	470	495
RSC Macro Group Members-----	450	485
Student -----	350	390
Persons Accompanying -----	250	250

*Early registration fees apply to 15th June 2015

Delegates must register by submitting details at the PDDG website (www.PDDG.org). All registration fees must be paid by Aug 15th, 2015. All fees must be paid in advance before the event.

The fees include conference entry pass, the special reception party (Sunday 30 August) and all daily lunches and coffees. The Gala Conference Dinner and boat tours are optional extras.

Payment Options

Pay directly by bank transfer to the following account:
 For security reasons the PDDG have not released bank account details – delegates interested in participating should e-mail the treasurer (allennorman71@yahoo.com) for payment options

Please note that all bank transfers must specify the name of the delegate or group/organisation. The PDDG does not accept credit card transactions. If cancellation & refund request is received in writing before 7 June 2015, you are entitled to a full refund less £50 administration fee. Requests received after 1st July 2015 will not be honoured. See PDDG website for further details.

Forthcoming Meetings & Conferences

**Date**

March 2 - 4, 2015

Venue

Technology & Innovation
Centre, University of
Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK

**Programme Topics**

Materials science, soft matter physics, biophysics, chemistry and biomedical applications of peptide & protein biomaterials.

- Peptide Design, Collagens & Coiled Coils
- Peptide Biomaterials & Tissue Regeneration
- Peptide Interactions with Materials & Nanomaterials
- Peptide Nanostructures in Opto/Electronic Applications
- Dynamic Peptide Systems & Self-assembly
- Peptide Hydrogels
- Peptide / Polymer Interactions
- Peptide and Protein Scaffolds; Nanoparticles
- Peptide-based Drug Delivery Systems

Poster Prize

There will be a Poster Prize for young researchers sponsored by the Protein & Peptide Science Group of the RSC.

More information

info@nanopeptide2015.org

Nanopeptide

Peptide & Protein Based
Materials & Technologies

2015

A multidisciplinary international conference

First announcement
& call for papers



Held under the Auspices of the Protein
& Peptide Science Group of the Royal
Society of Chemistry

Keynote Speaker

Sam Stupp, Northwestern University, USA

Other Invited Speakers

- Nurit Ashkenasy, Ben Gurion University, Israel
- Beatriu Escuder Gil, Universitat Jaume I, Castellon, Spain
- Richard Farndale, University of Cambridge, UK
- David Lynn, Emory University, USA
- Alvaro Mata, Queen Mary University of London, UK
- Les Miranda, Amgen Inc.
- Sijbren Otto, University of Groningen, The Netherlands
- Leonard Prins, University of Padova, Italy
- Mital Reches, Hebrew University, Israel
- Tell Tuttle, University of Strathclyde, UK
- Dek Woolfson, University of Bristol, UK
- Ting Xu, UC Berkeley, USA

Conference Chair

- Rein Ulijn, CUNY, USA and Strathclyde, UK

Programme Committee

- Vince Conticello, Emory University, USA
- Jeff Hartgerink, Rice University, USA
- Aline Miller, University of Manchester, UK
- Thomas Scheibel, University of Bayreuth, Germany
- Louise Serpell, University of Sussex, UK
- Tony Weiss, University of Sydney, Australia

Abstract Deadline: January 16, 2015

Late posters: February 13, 2015

Earlybird Registration Deadline: January 16, 2015

Also reduced rates for Post-Docs and PhD Students

www.nanopeptide2015.org

Forthcoming Meetings & Conferences

Recent Appointees in
Polymer Science

September 2-4th 2015 University of Birmingham

The 16th Annual RAPS meeting **brings together early career academics (>1 year post doc, fellows and lecturers) alongside industrialists with the aim of developing their peer network within and outside the UK.**

Opportunities to present your work both orally and through posters are available (with sponsored prizes) alongside complementary RAPS merchandise for all delegates.

Our **generously subsidised** conferences offer ideal and informal opportunities for networking and collaborations.

We also focus on **practical early career advice** from a range of experienced speakers on topics ranging from entrepreneurship and open innovation to generating funding, building a lab and interacting with the media.

Spaces are limited so register today at www.raps.org.uk

Supported by:

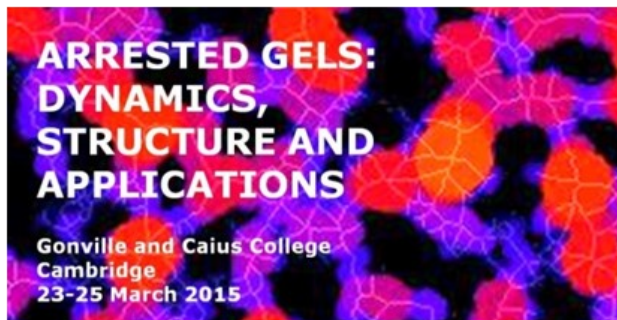
IOP | Institute of Physics
Polymer Physics Group



Forthcoming Meetings & Conferences

Arrested Gels: Dynamics, Structure and Applications

Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, 23rd - 25th March 2015



The RSC/SCI Colloids Group is pleased to announce a meeting on gels for scientists in academia and industry. The focus of the meeting is the dynamics, structure and applications of arrested gels; colloidal gels are complex materials that when suitably designed give the performance and function to a wide range of advanced modern day products.

Fundamental to designing such materials is understanding the interplay between interparticle forces on the molecular level and mesoscopic and macroscopic phenomena of network formation, mechanical properties and time-evolution. Understanding how all these components behave and interact together will be the focus of this colloquium.

Arrested gels is of interest for:

- Colloidal, nanoparticle, polymeric and protein gels.
- Material design, formulation, foods, coatings, emulsions, suspensions, crop protection oil dispersions, cosmetics, personal care formulations, new/novel applications, ...
- Fundamentals: stability and micro-structure of dispersions and gels, sedimentation, dynamics, transition kinetics, ...
- Experimentation, rheology, DWS, micro-rheology, scattering studies, sedimentation measurement, confocal microscopy, ...
- Simulation, Brownian dynamics, hydrodynamic interactions, ...
- Rheological structuring agents, ...

Featuring invited talks from:

- Dr. L. Berthier (Montpellier)
- Prof. D. Bonn (Amsterdam)
- Prof. L. Cipelletti (Montpellier)
- Dr. W. Frith (Unilever)
- Prof. P. Schurtenberger (Lund)
- Prof. H. Tanaka (Tokyo)

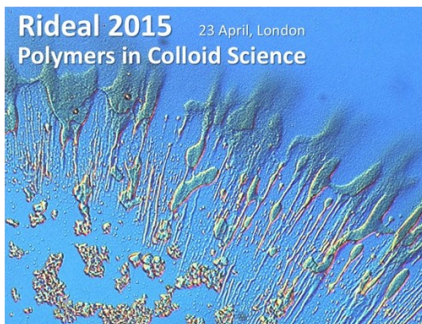
Plus many other high quality talks from academia and industry (further details on website). Abstract submissions for posters are still welcome.

The venue is the modern Cavonius Centre in Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. [Registration](#) is open (special low rate for students). Early bird rate closes 20th February. Organising Committee: Malcolm Faers, Paul Bartlett, Paddy Royall, Alex Routh.

Forthcoming Meetings & Conferences

2015 Rideal Meeting: Polymers in Colloid Science

Thursday 23 April 2015, SCI, London, UK



The winner of the 2015 Rideal Medal is Prof Paul Luckham of Imperial College and the theme of this year's meeting is 'Polymers in Colloid Science'. The speakers are all former students of Paul or academics and industrialists he has collaborated with during his career. This one day meeting will include a student poster session and a wine reception prior to Paul giving the Rideal lecture at the end of the conference.

Confirmed Speakers include Prof Jayne Lawrence (King's College London), Dr Patrick Hartley (CSIRO, Australia), Dr Andrew Howe (Schlumberger Cambridge Research), Prof Kostas Kostarelos (University of Manchester), Dr Cecile Dreiss (King's College London), Dr Malcolm Faers (Bayer CropScience), Dr Gavin Braithwaite (Cambridge Polymer Group) and Dr Koorash Tahmasbi (Pars Drilling Fluids).

The AGM of SCI's Colloid and Surface Chemistry Group and RSC's Colloid and Interface Science Group will take place during the day.

Students wishing to present a poster are strongly encouraged to submit their application for this early, as numbers will be limited. Please send a one-page abstract to conferences@soci.org by **Friday 27 March 2015**.

Further details can be found on the SCI website <http://www.soci.org/Events> (or directly here: <https://www.soci.org/Events/Display-Event?EventCode=COLL444>).

Advanced School in Soft Condensed Matter "Solutions in the Spring"

Monday, 13 April – Thursday, 16 April 2015
Loughborough University, UK

This is the annual training school for PhD students, organized by the IOP Liquids and Complex Fluids Group, and co-sponsored by the IOP Polymer Physics and Biological Physics Groups. The lecturers and topics will be:

Daniel Bowron (ISIS) - Neutron Scattering and Disordered Materials
Ingo Dierking (Manchester) - Liquid Crystals
Rhoda Hawkins (Sheffield) - Biophysics
Alexei Likhtman (Reading) - Polymer Physics

Further details can be found at <http://scmspring2015.iopconfs.org/home>

Tel: +44(0)20 7470 4800

E-mail: conferences@iop.org

Forthcoming Meetings & Conferences



European Polymer Congress 2015

Biennial Meeting of the European Polymer Federation

Dresden, Germany - June 21 to 26, 2015



Sponsoring & Exhibition Options

Take the chance to make your firm visible and to get into contact with an estimated 1200 to 1500 polymer researchers from all over the world on the occasion of Europe's largest polymer congress.

The European Polymer Congress is held at the International Congress Centre Dresden (ICCD) located at the banks of the river Elbe with a splendid view to the Baroque silhouette of the city. An industrial exhibition is planned to be installed at the exclusive Terrassenebene (terrace floor) and will be organized as a mixed zone with coffee and lunch buffets for the participants. The exhibition will be open during the whole duration of the congress (Sunday evening to Friday noon).

Early booking guarantees your participation in a prominent place!

For your convenience, we offer packages for exhibitors and sponsoring options.

Upgrades/Alternative sponsoring options

Draw attention to your company by sponsoring special events and services

	Asking prices
Welcome get together	EUR 10000*
Coffee break	EUR 3000*
Lunch break	EUR 10000*
Conference dinner	EUR 12000*
<i>Contribute to make participants feel comfortable at the meeting! Your support will be mentioned in prominent positions and you may place roll-ups/flags/posters/banners.</i>	
Communication	To be agreed
<i>You pay the expenses for WiFi access for participants during the conference, in return your firm logo and web address appear at the vouchers with access data.</i>	

Contact us

* Prices plus VAT

Please contact the local organizing committee (see below) for registration or use the form. Do not hesitate to tell us your specific questions and ideas about your contribution to the conference. GDCh as the official organizer will prepare a sponsoring contract and will be your legal partner for this event.

For questions regarding the technical execution of the company exhibition and all further questions regarding the conference venue in Dresden please contact Kerstin Wustrack (+49 351 4658-282) or Juliane Jeschke (+49 351 4658-367, epf2015@ipfdd.de).

Questions on legal or accounting issues will be gladly answered by Silvia Kirrwald (+49 69 7917-358, s.kirrwald@gdch.de) at GDCh.

Forthcoming Meetings & Conferences

Date(s)	Title and Location	Organiser
2 - 4 March 2015	Nanopeptide2015, Glasgow, UK	http://www.nanopeptide2015.org/
23 - 25 March 2015	Arrested Gels: Dynamics, Structure and Applications, Cambridge, UK	http://www.constableandsmith.com/arrestedgels/default.htm
23 April 2015	2015 Rideal Meeting: Polymers in Colloid Science, London, UK	https://www.soci.org/Events/Display-Event.aspx?EventCode=COLL444
24 April 2015	Formulating Functional Films and Coatings, RSC, Burlington House, London	http://www.formulation.org.uk/fffc
11 - 15 May 2015	E-MRS Spring meeting, Lille, France	http://www.emrs-strasbourg.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=800&Itemid=1652
17 - 22 May 2015	EPF 7th Summer School: Polymers at interfaces and surfaces, Gargnano, Italy.	http://aim.it/eng
24 - 28 May 2015	EUPOC 2015 Conducting Polymeric Materials, Gargnano, Italy	https://www1.dcci.unipi.it/eupoc2015
21 - 26 June 2015	15th EPF Congress, Dresden, Germany	http://www.epf2015.org/
5 - 10 July 2015	11th International Symposium on Ionic Polymerization, France	http://ip15.sciencesconf.org/
12 - 15 July 2015	35 Australasian Polymer Symposium	http://35APS.org.au
20 - 23 July 2015	12th International Conference on Materials Chemistry, University of York, UK	http://www.rsc.org/ConferencesAndEvents/RSCConferences/MC12/
9 - 14 August 2015	45th IUPAC World Chemistry Congress, Korea	http://www.iupac2015.org
30 August - 3 Sept. 2015	Polymer degradation, Life assessment and stability, Stockholm, Sweden	http://www.PDDG.org
2 - 4 September 2015	RAPS 2015, Birmingham, UK	http://www.raps.org.uk/
8 -10 September 2015	Physical Aspects of Polymer Science 2015, Manchester, UK	http://paps15.iopconfs.org
18 - 22 October 2015	11th International Conference on Advanced Polymers via Macromolecular Engineering (APME-2015), Yokohama, Japan	http://www.apme2015.jp/