Ionic Polymerization, Part I & II

***Macromolecular Symposia* Vol. 349 and 350, March and April 2015**

Editor: Tatsuki Kitayama, Sadahito Aoshima, and Masami Kamigaito

The Ionic Polymerization series of symposia have roots in the individually-held international symposia on cationic, anionic, and ring-opening polymerizations. In 1992, the European Polymer Federation Workshop on "Anionic Polymerization and Related Processes" was held in Mainz, Germany. Leading experts who attended the workshop recognized the closer relationship and interplay among these polymerization processes in view of precise control of polymer structures and macromolecular architectures. They prepared and distributed a circular letter through the international community to ask for opinions on the merger of these symposia. The decision to merge was made during the 11th International Symposium on Cationic Polymerization and Related Processes, held in Borovetz, Bulgaria, in 1993. The first "International Symposium on Ionic Polymerization" was held in Istanbul, Turkey, in 1995. Otto Vogl, a member of the International Advisory Committee of IP2013 who passed away on April 27, 2013, and Yusuf Yagci, the chair of the first IP, published the first conference report with a brief description of the history of the symposia [1]. After Istanbul, the IP series symposia have been held around the world in the following sequence:

Istanbul, Turkey (1995) → Paris, France (1997) → Kyoto, Japan (1999) → Crete, Greece (2001) → Boston, USA (2003) → Goa, India (2005) → Kloster Banz, Germany (2007) → Krakow, Poland (2009) → Akron, USA (2011) → Awaji, Japan (2013)

The latest International Symposium on Ionic Polymerization (IP2013) was held in Awaji Island, Japan, 23-28 September 2013. The scientific program of IP2013 consisted of 49 invited, 9 contributed oral, 20 short oral (for young researchers), and 70 poster presentations, which addressed contemporary research, both fundamental and applied, in the areas of anionic, cationic, and ring-opening polymerizations, as well as other techniques of living/controlled polymerizations. The program also incorporated papers on the analysis of polymeric materials. The quality of the posters was evaluated by an international task group (6 foreign and 3 Japanese professors). The task group awarded three IUPAC Poster Awards as well as three RSC Polymer Chemistry Poster Awards.

The steering committee, attended by 19 members, approved the next IP meeting, to be held in Bordeaux, France (see http://ip15.sciencesconf.org).

Among the 49 invited speakers, 6 were from industry, while 3 of the 9 contributed orals were from industry. These numbers are relatively large in this series of symposia, and reflect the high standard of the Japanese polymer industry. The topics from industry are also wide-spread, covering anionic synthesis of acrylic block copolymers, practical applications of controlled/living radical polymerizations, and ring-opening polymerizations.

1. Polymer News, 1996, 21, 352–359; *Prog. Polym. Sci.,* 1997, 22, 1381–1395.

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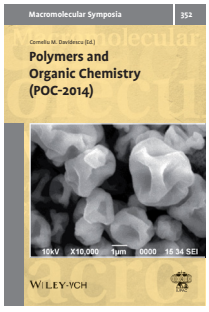

Polymers and Organic Chemistry

***Macromolecular Symposia* Vol. 352, June 2015**

Symposium Editor: Corneliu-Mircea Davidescu

The IUPAC-sponsored conference on Polymers and Organic Chemistry, POC-2014, took place in Timisoara, Romania, 10-13 June 2014. The conference was organized by Politehnica University Timisoara with the support of the Timisoara Branch of the Romanian Society of Chemistry (SChR) and the Institute of Chemistry Timisoara of the Romanian Academy.

The conference was the 15th scientific event sponsored by IUPAC in a series that has continued the tradition of biannual meetings travelling from one continent to another since the 1st edition held in 1982 in Lyon, France. These meetings aim to present, discuss, and share recent results in the fields of polymer and organic chemistry, and in the synthesis and applications of polymers, in order to promote their importance in science and technology. The last editions of POC were held in:

Tianjin, China (9th Ed. 2000) → San Diego, USA (10th Ed. 2002) → Prague, Czech Republic (11th Ed. 2004)

→ Okazaki, Japan (12th Ed. 2006) → Montreal, Canada (13th Ed. 2009) → Doha, Qatar (14th Ed. 2012)

POC-2014 was recognized as a very successful scientific event, and was attended by over 100 registered participants from 28 countries (Austria, Canada, Chile, China, Czech Republic, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Switzerland, Russia, Serbia, Spain, The Netherlands, Turkey, Ukraine and USA), located on 5 continents (Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, South America).

The conference presentations focused on 6 topics: advances in polymer synthesis; novel functional polymers; biocatalysis in polymer synthesis; polymers for catalysis and energy applications; polymers for separations and environmental protection; and polymers in medicine, biochemistry and agriculture. The main conference presentations were offered by 2 Keynote Speakers: Dr. Bogdan C. Simionescu, Department of Natural and Synthetic Polymers, Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry, Iasi, Romania, lectured on "Polymer engineering focusing on drug/gene delivery and tissue engineering: from simple towards complex architectures and hybrid materials"; and Dr. Ghislain David, Institut Charles Gerhardt, Ecole Nationale Superieure de Chimie de Montpellier, France, which lectured on "Phosphorus-containing polymers: New trends". Additionally, the conference featured 12 Plenary Invited Lectures delivered by prominent scientists from different countries, as well as 28 Oral Presentations. Two Poster Sessions, with 63 presentations, showcased the latest results obtained by younger scientists.

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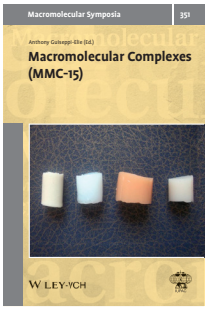

Macromolecular Complexes

***Macromolecular Symposia* Vol. 351, May 2015**
Symposium Editor: Anthony Guiseppi-Elie

These proceedings are intended for scientists, engineers, and other technical personnel who seek a current assessment of the state of the science and technological opportunities presented by the rapidly growing field of macromolecular complexes.

The book is the result of technical contributions to the 15th International Symposium on MacroMolecular Complexes (MMC-15) endorsed by IUPAC.

Under the chairmanship of Prof. Dr. Anthony Guiseppi-Elie and organized by faculty and students of the Center for Bioelectronics, Biosensors and Biochips at Clemson University's Advanced Materials Research Center, MMC-15 was held on 13-16 August 2013 in Greenville, South Carolina and on the campus of Clemson University in Clemson, South Carolina, USA.

The keynote address was delivered by Prof. Cato T. Laurencin (University of Connecticut, USA), while seven plenary addresses were delivered by Prof. Gero Decher (Strasbourg, France), Prof. Joseph M. DeSimone (University of North Carolina, USA), Prof. Sabine Flitsch (The University of Manchester, UK), Prof. Kazuhiko Ishihara (Tokyo University, Japan), Dr. Mkhulu Mathe (CSIR, South Africa), Prof. Hiroyuki Nishide (Waseda University, Japan), and Prof. Eduardo Pereira (University of Concepcion, Chile).

Thematically, the book is organized according to the topical conferences of the symposium. The themes for MMC- 15 were Energy Harvesting and Energy Industry, Sustainability and Green Chemistry, Biotechnology and Biomedicine, and Global Health. These are pressingly important areas where macromolecules play a vital role in transforming technology for the betterment of human kind. Among the topics addressed were: in the area of energy—superior polyelectrolyte membranes for fuel cells and polymers for low-cost high emissive light emitting diodes (OLEDs); in the area of sustainability and green chemistry—polymers for biodegradable packaging and monomers and polymers from biomass sources; in the area of biotechnology and biomedicine—bioactive hydrogels and supramolecular polymer assemblies for targeted drug delivery; and in the area of global health—polymer fibers for controlled flow in low-cost lateral-flow diagnostic devices and polymer membranes for desalination. Conference sponsors were BIODOT, Milliken, ACS Poly, ACS PMSE, Wiley, ABTECH Scientific, Inc., Clemson Bioengineering, Milliken, Western Carolina Section of the ACS, Michelin USA, and Clemson Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering.

MMC-16 will be held at Wrocław University of Technology (WUT), Poland, 10-14 August 2015, under the chairmanship of Prof. Andrzej W. Trochimczuk.

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