

Ionic Polymerization

17-22 September 2017, Durham, UK

The 12th **International Symposium on Ionic Polymerization** (IP 2017) will be held at Durham University in the UK from 17 to 22 September 2017, organised and hosted by the Durham Centre for Soft Matter and endorsed by IUPAC. IP 2017 will be the latest in a series of successful meetings, the most recent of which were held in Bordeaux (France, 2015), Awaji (Japan, 2013), Akron (USA, 2011), and Krakow (Poland, 2009).

IP 2017 has its roots in the series of international symposia on Cationic, Anionic, and Ring-opening Polymerizations which were merged into the inaugural In-

ternational Symposium on Ionic Polymerization held in Istanbul (Turkey, 1995).

The focus of IP 2017 will be on academic and industrial research in the areas of anionic, cationic, and ring-opening polymerization mechanisms. Contributions related to other methods of living/controlled polymerization (catalytic, controlled free-radical, and step-growth polymerizations) are welcome.

We invite all participants to submit an abstract for contributed oral presentations (20 minutes), short talks for younger researchers (15 minutes) or posters.

Contact I.r.hutchings@durham.ac.uk for more info.

www.dur.ac.uk/soft.matter/ip2017

Global Challenges and Data-Driven Science

8-13 October 2017, Saint Petersburg, Russia

The International CODATA 2017 Conference, "Global Challenges and Data-Driven Science", will explore the fundamental issues relating to the availability, (re-)use, and scientific analysis of data that relate to the most significant contemporary global challenges.

Global science is increasingly data-driven. Major international scientific programmes contribute to a collective endeavour to understand contemporary global processes and phenomena that are of deep relevance to contemporary societies. The unprecedented volume of data generated by the digital revolution of recent decades has led to the emergence of distinctive and powerful means of characterising and understanding the complex systems that are at the heart of many global challenges. These developments raise major questions around data collection, stewardship, and analysis and there are timely lessons to be shared between the academic and commercial sectors.

This major scientific conference aims to explore the intersection between data-driven technological and scientific approaches and specific global challenges. It will explore the nexus between:

1. approaches that permit vast quantities of data to be created, stored, recombined, and analysed, with the capacity to integrate data from disparate domains to reveal unanticipated relationships, and, with the use of powerful learning algorithms, to establish deep relationships in complex systems; and
2. their application to major global challenges, including disaster risk, smart cities, and urban development and global environmental change.

Scope of the Conference

Topics to be covered by the conference include:

- concrete achievements in data-driven science across all research areas;
- data collection, analysis, and integration for Earth observations and the study of the Earth's system;
- data collection and analysis for disaster risk research;
- data-driven cities and sustainable urban development;
- shared data challenges, Big Data Management, and analysis in the scientific and commercial sectors;
- the fundamental and practical issues of data analysis, event recognition, and application;
- coordination and development of national and international data services;
- the development of research data services in universities and other research organisations;
- coordination of data standards and interoperability;
- issues around "Intelligently Open" and FAIR data.

The conference will be of interest to researchers in many domains, particularly those relating to the global research programmes sponsored by the International Council of Science (Future Earth, Integrated Research on Disaster Risk, Urban Health and Wellbeing), as well as research around the Sustainable Development Goals, ecological and environmental challenges and assessments, and the Sendai Framework on disaster risk reduction. The conference will foster constructive and continued dialogue between transdisciplinary researchers and data experts.

<http://codata2017.gcras.ru>