

Messages



Welcome Remarks by the Chairman of “The 29th International Conference of the Polymer Processing Society”

The 29th International Conference of the Polymer Processing Society (PPS-29) was held in July 2013 in Nuremberg, Germany, with the support of past president, Prof. Ica Manas-Zloczower, and current president, Prof. Giuseppe Titomanlio. The organization of the conference was shared between the Department for Polymer Engineering at the University of Bayreuth and the New Materials Bayreuth GmbH.

With 8 plenary lectures, 62 keynote speeches, 342 regular talks and 271 poster contributions from over 730 participants from 52 countries, the success of the conference was attributed foremost to the quality and scope of the technical program which presented the latest trends in polymer science and engineering. Of the total number of contributions, 168 of these are included as reviewed full papers in this proceedings volume, which is also the first time that proceedings from an international PPS conference are being published as conference papers.

Topics were presented in 13 general and special symposia covering all aspects of the development and processing of polymer materials, including advanced processing technologies for extrusion, injection molding, processing of reactive systems, natural and bio-based polymers, nanostructured polymers and nanocomposites. The special symposia were dedicated to emerging application fields and novel characterization methods. The plenary speakers enriched the conference with their presentations covering key topics within the symposia themes, showing emerging trends in the development and processing of polymers and trends in market potentials.

Without the generous support provided by BASF SE, ENGEL AUSTRIA, EPP-FORUM e.V., Leistritz Extrusionstechnik GmbH, Erich NETZSCH GmbH & Co. Holding KG, Anton Paar Germany GmbH, PCO AG and Quadrant EPP AG/Quadrant Plastic Composites AG, this conference would not have been possible at this scale. The funds allowed us to support the attendance of young scientists (postdoctoral researchers and students) and offer cultural attractions and industrial excursions as part of the conference program. Regional companies in the polymer industry such as Adidas, Leistritz, Mars, Sumitomo Demag, together with the New Materials Bayreuth, New Materials Fürth, University of Erlangen and University of Bayreuth, opened their doors to interested participants of the PPS-29.

Many members of the organizing team worked very hard to turn our initial visions for this conference into reality, with special thanks going to Amir Fathi, as scientific program

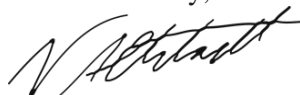
coordinator, and Andreas Spörrer, as technical program coordinator. We would like to warmly thank Birgit and Theresa Dollhopf for their tireless administrative support and all other organizing committee members for their dedication before and after this unique event.

We would like to additionally thank the past president and international representatives of the Polymer Processing Society for giving us the honor to host this meeting, the symposia organizers, the symposia chairs and co-chairs for their hard work in reviewing and evaluating the abstracts and proceeding papers, and The Scientific Alliance of Professors in Polymer Technology in Germany (WAK), without whose support the PPS meeting would have been unimaginable. Additionally, I would like to warmly thank all the authors who, with their presentations and posters, generously contributed to the lively exchange of scientific information that is so vital to the endurance of scientific conferences of this kind.

My final thanks would go to the scientific and technical editorial team of this proceedings edition, Jan-Hendrik Keller, Amir Fathi, Jacqueline Uhm, as well as Vito Speranza.

The next international meeting, PPS-30, will be held in Cleveland, Ohio (USA) in June 2014, followed by Jeju Island, Korea in 2015. Given the rapidity with which knowledge is advancing in polymer science and processing, we expect that these future PPS conferences will be as stimulating as the one in Nuremberg, Germany.

Yours Sincerely,



Professor Volker Altstädt
Chairman of PPS-29