## POLYMER NANOCOMPOSITES: IS SMALLER BETTER?

## Emmanuel P. Giannelis Department of Materials Science and Engineering Cornell University

Work in polymer nanocomposites has exploded over the last few years. The prospect of a new materials technology, which can function as low-cost alternative to high-performance composites for applications ranging from automotive to food packaging to microelectronics has become irresistible to researchers around the world. In this talk I will review our research effort in nanocomposites and emphasize work on understanding their (mechanical) properties.