

Announcement

Gordon Conference on The Chemistry of Polysaccharides July 22–27, 2001, Mount Holyoke College, Massachusetts, USA

As the scientific community has turned its attention to renewable and sustainable resources as a source of novel and advanced chemicals, polymers, and composites, interest in polysaccharide chemistry has naturally increased. The result has been a renaissance of investigations into the biosynthesis, structure, properties, and performance of polysaccharides and their derivatives available from the natural pool. To illustrate, the biosynthetic pathways and the complex self-assembly of higher order polysaccharide structures are areas of rapid development. The complex problems of analysis at the molecular, aggregate, and structural levels are being addressed by modern analytical techniques. This ability to probe structure at the molecular level has likewise energized synthetic efforts to create novel and functional materials from these renewable feedstocks. The scope of this renaissance is truly international. Significant centers of polysaccharide chemistry activity and excellence exist in Japan, Europe, and North America, as well as many other parts of the world. For this reason, the inaugural Chemistry of Polysaccharides Gordon Conference will be held in the United States and then will rotate around these three general areas of the globe; the 2003 conference is planned for a summer European location, and the 2005 conference for a summer location in Japan.

Detailed planning for the 2001 conference is underway. Topics to be addressed include:

- Sustainable and Renewable Resources: Nature's Supply of Polysaccharides
- Advances in the Structural Analysis of Polysaccharides
- Structure–Property Relationships of Polysaccharides
- Synthesis of Cellulose Derivatives
- Synthesis of Novel Polysaccharide Derivatives
- Biosynthesis of Polysaccharides
- Biotransformations of Polysaccharides
- Polysaccharides as Therapeutic Agents
- Self-Assembly of Polysaccharides

The organizing committee invites you to attend the 2001 Gordon Conference on The Chemistry of Polysaccharides. The Gordon Conference on The Chemistry of Polysaccharides will provide a forum for in-depth lectures, scientific interactions, and free-ranging discussion focusing on the diverse and groundbreaking research now taking place in many areas of polysaccharide chemistry. For further details visit the Gordon Conferences web site at www.grc.uri.edu or contact the 2001 Conference Chair.

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