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Proceeding: 1st Zsigmondy Colloquium of the German Colloid Society at the Max Planck Institut for Polymer Research, April 1–2, 2004

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The annual Zsigmondy Colloquium (previously called “Young Researchers” Days) of the German Colloid Society was intended to bring together young researchers from different areas of colloid, surface and interface science, and related fields in chemistry and physics. This 2-day workshop aspired to give an overview on current aspects of colloid and interface science in fundamental research and applications, and to provide a platform for dialogue between researchers from universities, industry, and research institutions.

The meeting was re-named in honour of Richard Zsigmondy (1865–1929) who received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry 1925 for his demonstration of the heterogeneous nature of colloid solutions and for the methods he used, which have since become fundamental in modern colloid chemistry.

The colloquium was organized by H.J. Butt and D. Vollmer (MPI for Polymer Research, Mainz) in cooperation with H. Möhwald (MPI for Colloid and Interface Science, Golm), H. Auweter (BASF Ludwigshafen), W. von Rybinski (Henkel KGaA, Düsseldorf), G.H. Findenegg (Stranski Laboratorium for Physical and Theoretical Chemistry, TU Berlin) and H. Rehage (Institute for Physical Chemistry,

University Duisburg-Essen). The colloquium was supported by the Colloid Society, the Max Planck Society, Henkel KGaA, and Degussa AG.

The scientific program comprised two invited lectures by Erich Sackmann (Physics Department, TU München) on “Micromechanics and microrheometry of cells” and Peter Nielaba (Institute of Physics, University of Konstanz) on “Colloids as a bridge to the nanoworld” and 22 contributed lectures. The two poster awards of the Colloid Society (offered by *Springer*) were presented to Xiaofeng Yuan, W. Schärftl and K. Fischer (Institute of Physical Chemistry, University of Mainz) “Reversible cluster formation induced by photocrosslinking”, and Zhihua An, H. Möhwald and J. Li (MPI for Colloid and Interface Science, Golm) “Fabrication of biomimetic membrane microcapsules from protein and lipid”. Marc Nolte, N. Elsner and A. Fery (MPI for Colloid and Interface Science, Golm) received a poster award offered by *Elsevier* for their presentation: “Tuning of microcapsule adhesion by varying the capsule stiffness”. The two poster prizes offered by the *Fonds der Chemischen Industrie* were granted to Michael Groß and M. Maskos (Institute of Physical Chemistry, University of

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Mainz) “Polymeric amphipolar nanoparticles: A colloidal drug container model system”, and Heiko Rochholz, F. Stefani, J. Shumaker-Perry, W. Knoll and Max Kreiter (MPI for Polymer Research, Mainz) “Colloidal lithography: Fabrication of asymmetric metal nanoparticles and optical characterization by single particle measurements”. We are grateful to all sponsors.

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