

## Preface

The Interdisciplinary Workshop on the Molecular Modeling of Polymers took place at Wild Dunes, on Isle of Palms, SC, March 1–4, 1998. The workshop was co-sponsored by the Division of Polymer Chemistry of the American Chemical Society, the Petroleum Research Fund of the American Chemical Society, Molecular Simulations, Inc., and DuPont, Inc.

This workshop was the second of its kind, following a similar meeting sponsored by the ACS and others in 1993. The focus of this workshop was on the range of methods which have arisen in the field of atomistic and molecular modeling in the intervening years to address problems which are of particular importance to the study of macromolecular solutions, melts and solids. The plenary lecture on crystallization in copolymers, delivered by Prof. U. W. Suter, was followed by sessions on Thermodynamics and Conformation, Mesoscopic Structure and Properties, Dynamics of Melts and Glasses, Bridging Length Scales, and Field Theoretic Approaches. New developments presented at the meeting included larger, smarter and more insightful approaches to dealing with the simulation or theoretical representation of polymer phenomena which occur on many different time and length scales.

The workshop attracted over 60 participants from 10 countries, including 16 invited speakers and 24 contributed poster presentations. About 40 % of the participants were from industry or government labs. A booklet of abstracts for all invited and contributed papers was available to participants. A number of voluntary contributions representative of the breadth of the workshop are compiled in this issue of *Macromolecular Symposia*.

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