

# Macromolecules

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## Editorial

Happy 2008 from all of us at *Macromolecules*! It has been a very busy year at the journal. In addition to celebrating our 40th anniversary, in late August 2007 we made the switch to the Paragon Plus publishing system. This was (and continues to be) an immense undertaking, with many dedicated people working behind the scenes to make the transition as seamless as possible. We appreciate your continued support and forbearance if you are among the few authors and reviewers who have encountered technical difficulties. We remain eager to receive your feedback and suggestions for ways in which the overall operation might be improved to serve you better.

**40th Anniversary Symposium.** I hope that many of you had the opportunity to hear at least some of the talks in this session at the Boston ACS Meeting; it was certainly extremely well attended. I would like to express my appreciation to all the speakers for their participation and for presenting such a wonderful set of talks highlighting exciting developments across the field of polymer science (see Table 1). The roster included three leaders from overseas, one former ACS President, and two Nobel Laureates. I am optimistic that it also included a future Nobel winner or two! Special thanks to Joe Graham from ACS Publications for a tremendous job of organizing publicity and funding for the Symposium and for the 40th anniversary Web site, to the POLY and PMSE Divisions of the ACS for co-sponsorship, and to Christine Landry-Coltrain in particular for her help with the scheduling.

Table 1

speaker	title
H. R. Allcock	Expanding options in polyphosphazene science
N. Hadjichristidis	Living stars
T. Hashimoto	In-situ and real-time studies of simultaneous living anionic copolymerization process and reaction-induced self-assembly
M. Antonietti	Multi-strand polymerization towards functional polymer material
J. M. J. Frechet	Polymers and polymer assemblies in therapeutic applications
R. H. Grubbs	Macromolecules prepared using olefin metathesis
T. M. Swager	Chemical sensors based upon polymer electronics
F. S. Bates	Nonionic amphiphilic block copolymers: Bigger and better
S. Chu	Single molecule studies of polymer dynamics
E. Reichmanis	The role of polymer materials in advanced electronics
D. A. Tirrell	Synthesis of novel macromolecules on messenger RNA templates
J. DeSimone	Engineered drug therapies enabled by fabrication processes from the electronics industry
K. Matyjaszewski	ATRP after 12 years

**Operations.** It is fitting that, in the 40th year of the journal, we achieved several milestones. These include our highest ISI Impact Factor (4.277), largest number of citations (76,488), most submissions received, and shortest median processing time (5 weeks to first response with reviews). In the context of these gratifying metrics, and given the evident success of the Paragon system, the question has arisen as to why the switch to Paragon Plus? The short answer (and I am confident you do not want the long answer) is that the Paragon interface, through which authors and reviewers interacted with the journal, was completely decoupled from the systems employed by the Editorial Offices and by the Production Operations in Columbus. Paragon Plus is a single Web-based platform that can unite all these different facets of the journal. In the long run we anticipate opportunities to streamline various aspects of the manuscript handling process as well as to introduce new beneficial functionalities.

**Associate Editors.** Professor Wayne Mattice, Alex Schulman Professor Emeritus at the University of Akron, has retired as an Associate Editor at the end of 2007. Dr. Mattice has served the journal, and our community, extremely well for an amazing 26 years. He also ranks among the top ten authors in terms of number of papers published in *Macromolecules*, with 130 to his name. We all wish Dr. Mattice many happy years of retirement in Texas.

On behalf of the Editorial team at *Macromolecules*, I am delighted to announce the appointment of two new Associate Editors, effective with this issue: Dr. Jane Lipson, Albert W. Smith Professor of Chemistry at Dartmouth College, and Dr. Marc Hillmyer, Elmore H. Northey Professor of Chemistry at the University of Minnesota. Dr. Lipson is very well-known for her work on polymer theory, especially with respect to the structure and thermodynamics of polymer melts, solutions, and blends. Dr. Hillmyer brings broad expertise in controlled polymerization, biorenewable polymers, and advanced applications of block copolymers. Dr. Lipson received her BSc, MSc, and PhD (1984) degrees from the University of Toronto, the last under the guidance of Professors Stuart Whittington and James Guillet. She then did a NATO postdoctoral fellowship with Professor Walter Stockmayer, which brought her to Dartmouth for the first time. The late Professor Stockmayer, universally known as "Stocky", was a founding Associate Editor for *Macromolecules*, which lends an appealing symmetry to this appointment. After a brief stint as an Assistant Professor at the University of Guelph, Dr. Lipson returned to Dartmouth permanently in 1987 and became a Full Professor in 1999. Dr.



Jane Lipson

Lipson has been recognized for her work in many ways, including a Camille and Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Award, the Arthur K. Doolittle Award from the American Chemical Society's Polymer Materials Science and Engineering Division, and a Meyers Faculty Fellowship from Dartmouth. This year she is also serving as the Chair of the Polymer Physics Gordon Conference. Dr. Hillmyer joined the faculty at Minnesota in 1997, after earning his BS from the University of Florida in 1989, his PhD in 1994 at Caltech with Professor Robert Grubbs, and a postdoctoral stint "across the mall" at Minnesota with Professor Frank Bates in Chemical Engineering & Materials Science. Dr. Hillmyer was promoted to Associate Professor in 2002 and Full Professor in 2007. He has been the recipient of



Marc Hillmyer

a Packard Fellowship for Science and Engineering, a Camille Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Award, a McKnight Land-Grant Professorship, and a Leverhulme Visiting Professorship at Cambridge University. We look forward to sharing the benefits of Dr. Lipson's and Dr. Hillmyer's wisdom and insight for years to come.

**Timothy P. Lodge**

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