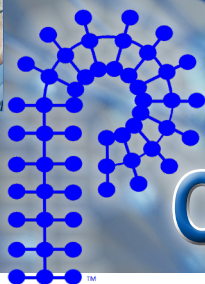


Fall 2023



# POLY NEWSLETTER

American Chemical Society  
Division of Polymer Chemistry, Inc.



2023 POLY Chair  
Allan Guymon

We have had an eventful and exciting 2023 in the Division of Polymer Chemistry! From national to regional meetings and from workshops and webinars to international conferences, POLY has been a force this year in driving the future of polymer science.

Our recent ACS national meeting in San Francisco was a tremendous success with many standing-room-only talks. Polymer symposia focused on big data and simulation, sustainability, biorelated and natural polymers. Topical sessions illustrated exciting new opportunities and directions for polymers in defense applications and space exploration. We had the opportunity to honor several of the best of the best in polymer chemistry with award symposia. A list of these can be found on page 2-4. We also had the opportunity to hear from former ACS President and longtime POLY member H.N. Cheng as our Plenary speaker. This success is due to an amazing programming team and particularly, Sara Orski, who put together an exceptional slate of symposia.

This fall I initiated a new award to recognize excellent presentations from graduate students in our General Topics sessions. These sessions were incredibly well attended with quality presentations and science throughout. Thanks to Julia Kalow for organizing this effort with help from several session presiders. Through these efforts we were able to acknowledge eight different graduate students from universities in the US, Japan and England. Congratulations to these deserving students! (POLY will post a news article on this award in the coming weeks – watch POLY’s social for the article!)



Workshops are an incredible way to learn the newest polymer science and interact with others in a small group setting who are pioneering advances in our field. Almost 90 attendees participated in Fluoropolymer 2023 in June. There are two additional workshops scheduled this fall including Sustainable Polymers and Controlled Radical Polymerization. POLY is also partnering with our global polymer community for the PPC18 Conference which will be held in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico in December.

Of course, none of this happens without an exceptional group of volunteers. POLY has nine standing committees that help with all aspects of what we do. Join me in thanking outgoing Committee Chairs Emily Pentzer (Publicity), Marc Hillmyer (Workshops), and Sara Orski (Programming) for all of their hard work and efforts within POLY and beyond. We welcome Coralie Backlund (Publicity) and Oleg Davydovich (Membership) as new Committee Chairs. We look forward to great things from your committees! We are always looking for new volunteers willing to give back to the polymer community. Be sure to contact me (allan-guymon@uiowa.edu) if you would like to join our amazing team.

Later in the newsletter, you will see our election slate. We appreciate all of the candidates for being willing. I encourage everyone to read each statement and vote this fall to ensure a vibrant future for POLY!

It has truly been a pleasure and honor to serve alongside you all as Chair of the division. Thank you all for your support and willingness to be a positive force in POLY.

## Inside

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Student Chpts.

MARCO Edu.

National Mtg.

Councilors' Rpt.

Regional Mtgs.

In Memoriam

Treasurer's Rpt.

## Upcoming

October 15  
Sustainable  
Polymers  
Workshop

November 1  
Mark Scholars  
Award Deadline

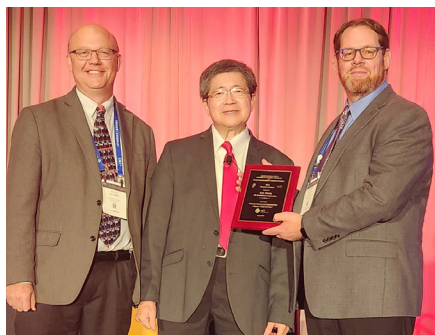
November 12  
Controlled  
Radical Pol.  
Workshop

November 30  
POLY Fellows  
Award Deadline

December 3  
PPC 18 Meeting

# POLY/PMSE PLENARY LECTURE & AWARDS PROGRAM

The POLY/PMSE awards reception was held Wednesday, August 16, 2023 at the ACS National Meeting in San Francisco, CA honoring outstanding achievements by its members. POLY Chair, Allan Guymon, had the pleasure of congratulating the spring POLY awardees.



**POLY/PMSE Plenary Speaker**  
**H.N. Cheng, US Department of Agriculture**  
Presentation Title: Polymer science and sustainability:  
a nexus of opportunities



**Herman F. Mark Polymer Chemistry Award**  
**Robert Waymouth, Stanford University**  
Recognizes outstanding research and leadership in polymer science

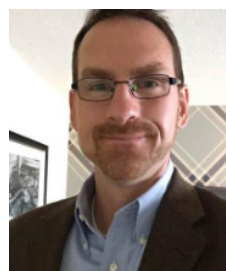
**Distinguished Service Award**  
**Michael Meador, NASA Glenn Research Center** (*retired*)  
Recognition of Dedication of Leadership as  
2022 Chair of the Division of Polymer Chemistry



**Charles G. Overberger International Prize for Excellence in Polymer Research**  
**Uli B. Wiesner, Cornell University**  
Recognizes and encourages accomplishments of unusual merit in the field of basic or applied polymer science, from researchers from anywhere in the world



**POLY Member Recognized for Receiving 2023 ACS Awards in Pure Chemistry**  
**Julia Kalow, Northwestern University**  
Recognizes and encourages fundamental research in pure chemistry carried out in North America by young men and women





## Young Industrial Polymer Scientist Award

Sponsored by Industrial Advisory Board



### Hayley Brown, Dow, Inc.

Recognizing outstanding industrial innovation and creativity in the application of Polymer Science, conducted by young individual scientists



## Henkel Award for Outstanding Graduate Research in Polymer Science and Engineering

Sponsored by



### Chris Delre, University of California, Berkeley

Recognizes a PhD graduate student or recent graduate who has completed an outstanding PhD thesis in research at a university in the US or Canada



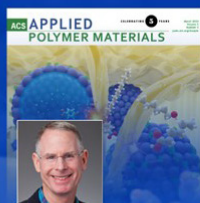
## ACS Macro Letters/Biomacromolecules Young Investigator Award

Recognizes two individuals, early in their careers, who have made a major impact on the field of polymer science

### Athina Anastasaki, ETH Zurich, Switzerland and

### Dominik Konkolewicz, Miami University, USA

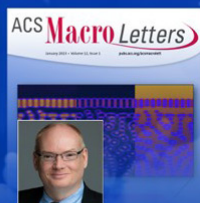
## THANK YOU ACS JOURNAL PARTNERS!



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Texas A&M University



EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
**Stuart J. Rowan**  
The University of Chicago



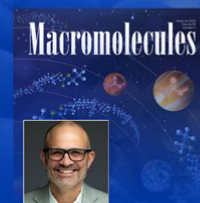
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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
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University of Minnesota

## Graduate Student Travel Award

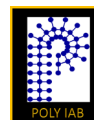
**Kriti Kapil, Carnegie Mellon University**

“Visible-light-mediated controlled radical branching polymerization in water”

**Julio E. Terán, North Carolina State University**

“Degradation processes related to material removal through abrasive damage: a novel perspective for measuring polymer surface changes”

Sponsored by  
Industrial Advisory Board



## POLY Poster Awards

**Nicodemo Ciccia, Univ. of CA, Berkeley,**

“Catalytic C–H amination creates tough, adhesive materials from polyethylenes”

**Takumi Yamamoto, Tokyo Inst. of Tech.**

“Fluorescent Radical Precursors for Detecting Mechanical Degradation of Polymers”

**Anna Makar-Limanov, Stanford Univ.**

“Towards Chemically Recyclable Resins for Vat Photopolymerization Additive Manufacturing”

Sponsors

**SPRINGER NATURE** MRS **Communications**



## POLY AWARD DEADLINES *(Nominate your colleagues!)*



### Mark Young, Scholar, & Senior Awards

**Deadline: 11/1/2023**

Purpose: Recognize excellence in basic or applied research & and leadership in polymer science by scientists of all ages.

### POLY Fellows Award

**Deadline: 11/30/2023**

Purpose: Recognize outstanding achievements in & and contributions to polymer science & and the profession.

### Henkel Award for Outstanding Graduate Research in Polymer Science & Engineering

**Deadline: 1/25/2024**

Purpose: Recognize a Ph.D. graduate student or recent graduate who has completed an outstanding Ph.D. thesis in research at a university in the US or Canada.

### ACS Macro Letters/ Biomacromolecules/ Macromolecules Young Investigator Award

**Deadline: 1/2024**

Purpose: Recognizes two individuals, early in their careers, who have made a major impact on the field of polymer science.

### Outstanding Poster Award

Judged during POLY Sci-Mix Poster Session

See web for details

Sponsor: Springer/MRS Communications

### Graduate Student Travel Awards

**Deadline: 9/27/2023 by 5 PM PST**

Two travel awards will be given for the Spring 2024 ACS National Meeting.

## POLY Awards Committee

Committee Chair: Alan Hopkins

Committee Members: Jeff Ting & Toby Nelson

### Additional Information

[CARLEEL@VT.EDU](mailto:CARLEEL@VT.EDU)

<https://polyacs.org/AWARDS/>

*The Awards Committee is unable to solicit individual nominations and serve to select awardees. In order for POLY to provide a diverse awards recipient list, we need YOU to nominate outstanding scientists.*

# 2023 POLY ELECTION

An email will be sent to voting members containing login instructions

Watch for an email from VOTENOW on October 17th

If you do not receive an email send an email to KATHYL@VT.EDU

Keep your contact information up-to-date! Send updates to SERVICE@ACS.ORG.

## Vice Chair Candidates



Kevin Cavicchi  
Univ. of Akron



Derek Patton  
Univ. of S. Mississippi



Abraham Joy  
Univ. of Akron



John Matson  
Virginia Tech

## Treasurer Candidates

## Councilor Candidates



Wei Gao  
Dow Chemical Co.



Kathryn Uhrich  
UC Riverside

## Alternate Councilor Candidates



Toby Nelson  
Univ. of Tennessee -  
Oak Ridge Innov. Inst.



Colleen Scott  
Mississippi State Univ.

**ELECTIONS GO LIVE 10/17-11/16**

Go online to <https://polyacs.org/elections/>  
to see election history, officer duties, and other election information.

## POLY BIENNIAL - NGRPC 2023

The 2023 ACS POLY National Graduate Research Polymer Conference was held at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, MI, June 29th through July 1st, 2023. The Macromolecular Science and Engineering Program was happy to host students, faculty, and industry from across the US (and some international participants), with 90 student poster presentations, 36 student oral presentations, and 13 industrial/academic keynote talks. Participants enjoyed a variety of graduate student-tailored workshops, presentations, and networking events. The future of polymer science is bright!

The organization team at the University of Michigan wants to thank sponsors: ACS POLY/PMSE, Dupont, Seqens, BASF, Xenocs, and MDPI Polymers, for their generous support. We also want to thank everyone for participating in the conference and for awarding the University of Michigan the opportunity to host such a wonderful event.



## CALL FOR PROPOSALS - NGRPC 2025

The National Graduate Research Polymer Conference is an important and impactful tradition provided by the ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry (POLY) since 1994. POLY established a national conference series for polymer science and engineering graduate students. The purpose of the meeting is to provide an opportunity for graduate students to present their work, network, and interact with working polymer scientists in academia, industry, and government. It also provides a university, faculty, and student group the opportunity to host the event at their university and gain experience in event planning, budgeting, and organizing a meeting. A faculty group and student team are encouraged to apply to host this biennial meeting. The next NGRPC meeting will be scheduled in 2025. POLY provides seed funding to support the conference, general meeting guidance, and will assist in promoting the event to the POLY membership.

**NGRPC 2025 - CALL FOR PROPOSALS:**

**DEADLINE:  
NOVEMBER 20, 2023**

Request an application form and additional details from  
[KATHYL@VT.EDU](mailto:KATHYL@VT.EDU)

## LIVE ACS/POLY CO-SPONSORED WEBINARS

The next POLY/ACS webinar will be at 2-3:30 pm (ET) on **November 16, 2023**. The webinar topic will be on **Polymer Mechanochemistry**. Speakers will be announced in the near future so stay tuned! The format on this webinar series is to feature two 25-30 minute presentations followed by a moderated question and answer session. The last POLY webinar had live attendees of about 500 from over 50 countries. The webinars are organized by the POLY Webinar Committee composed of Tomonori Saito, Brent Sumerlin, and Rebecca Olson Short.

Do you have any webinar topics you would like to see?

You can email Tomonori Saito ([saitot@ornl.gov](mailto:saitot@ornl.gov)), Rebecca Olson Short ([RAShort@PPG.com](mailto:RAShort@PPG.com)), or Brent Sumerlin ([sumerlin@chem.ufl.edu](mailto:sumerlin@chem.ufl.edu)) with your suggestions.

[View Past POLY Webinars on YouTube](#)

[View POLY/ACS Co-Sponsored Webinars](#)

## 2023 Workshops

### SUSTAINABLE POLYMERS

October 15 - 18, 2023  
Safety Harbor Resort and Spa  
Safety Harbor, FL USA  
Organizers: Marc Hillmyer, Thomas Epps,  
III, and Megan Robertson  
REGISTER TODAY!

### CONTROLLED RADICAL POLYMERIZATION

November 12 - 15, 2023  
The Mills House  
Charleston, SC USA  
Organizers: Kris Matyjaszewski, Nick  
Tsarevsky, Heifeng Gao, and Brent Sumerlin  
ABSTRACT DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1, 2023

### THE 18TH PACIFIC POLYMER CONFERENCE

December 3-7, 2023  
Sheraton Baganvillas Resort & Convention Center  
Puerto Vallarta, Mexico  
ABSTRACT DEADLINE; OCTOBER 1, 2023

## 2024 Workshops

### FIRE AND POLYMERS

May 12 - 15, 2024  
Embassy Suites New Orleans  
New Orleans, LA USA  
Organizers: Jaime Grunlan  
and Alexander Morgan  
ABSTRACT DEADLINE: JANUARY 15, 2024

### ADVANCES IN POLYOLEFINS

September 29 - October 2, 2024  
Doubletree by Hilton Sonoma Wine Country  
Rohnert Park, CA USA  
Organizers: Jerzy Klosin, Kim Ragaert,  
Rick Register, Kenneth Wagener, and  
João B. P. Soares  
ABSTRACT DEADLINE: AUGUST 23, 2024

## 2025 Workshops

### POLYMER UPCYCLING AND CIRCULARITY

Spring 2025  
Location TBD  
Organizers: Brett Helms, Kat Knauer,  
and LaShonda Korley  
More information coming soon...

For more information or to  
propose a new workshop  
for 2026, please contact the  
Workshop Committee Chair  
Marc Hillmyer ([hillmyer@  
umn.edu](mailto:hillmyer@umn.edu)) or Kathy Mitchem  
([kathyL@vt.edu](mailto:kathyL@vt.edu)) in the POLY  
Business Office.

# POLY INDUSTRIAL ADVISORY BOARD (IAB)

The purpose of IAB is to enhance and foster industrial engagement and support to develop programming, awards and recognition, and education within the ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry.

## NEWS

### NEW MEMBERSHIP TIER FOR COMPANIES

We've recently added a new membership tier in support of small and start-up companies (<500 employees) with deduced membership dues. This is a move toward inclusion to ensure that the IAB reflects the breadth and depth of industrial participation in the division.

No matter the company size, please consider joining the Board by contacting [kathyL@vt.edu](mailto:kathyL@vt.edu).

### Industry Networking Group (NING) Forms

The New Industry Networking Group (NING) is a broad coalition supported by the ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry (POLY) Industrial Advisory Board (IAB) that provides early career polymer science/engineering professionals resources and connections to have meaningful conversations about experiences working in industry and to learn from each other at our initial stage of career and life after graduate school.

A special thank you to new Co-Chair, Jeff Ting (Nanite) for making this initiative possible!

For complete information, visit <https://bit.ly/3Bai6XR>.

### ACS MEETING & BEYOND

In the Fall 2024 National Meeting IAB continued to support technical programming via organizer support for the Industrial Innovations in Science Symposium, supporting the Young Industrial Polymer Scientist Award and symposia and providing financial support for 2 Graduate Travel Awards. We also were grateful to see everyone in-person for the IAB Social at the Shelby Rooftop (San Francisco rooftops get cold!) and the IAB Business Breakfast. Looking to the future and New Orleans Spring 2024 and Denver Fall 2024, we're excited to continue with these events and forms of support and are looking for industrial volunteers who are interested in engaging with the division around career development resources specific to the POLY division. Please reach out if you're interested, particularly for technical programming!



Hayley Brown (Dow)  
POLY IAB Chair

### JOIN IAB

Chair: Hayley Brown (Dow)  
Co-Chair: Jeff Ting (Nanite)

IAB would like to invite you to join us to ensure that you and your company have a voice in divisional education, awards, and programming.

For more information, visit <https://polyacs.org/iab/>

### IAB COMPANIES

#### THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!



### IAB SUPPORTED AWARD

**STUDENTS:**  
**DO YOU NEED FUNDING TO ATTEND AN ACS NATIONAL MEETING?**

**Graduate Student Travel Awards**  
**Deadline: 9/27/2023 by 5 PM PST**

Two travel awards will be given for the Spring 2024 ACS National Meeting.

Award details can be found at: <https://polyacs.org/poly-graduate-student-travel-awards/>





## TRIPLE DETECTION FOR ADVANCED POLYMER CHARACTERIZATION



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# TOSOH BIOSCIENCE

# POLY/PMSE STUDENT CHAPTERS

The POLY/PMSE student chapters had another great year! Ten student chapters across the country submitted reports outlining all the exciting events and programs that were offered to their student members to help build a strong polymer science community and foster collaborations, professional growth, and networking. The Colorado State University student chapter hosted a Polymer Day on July 27th where they conducted fun polymer science demonstrations, provided talks from polymer scientists from academia and national labs, and held a student poster session.



**Polymer Day at CSU**

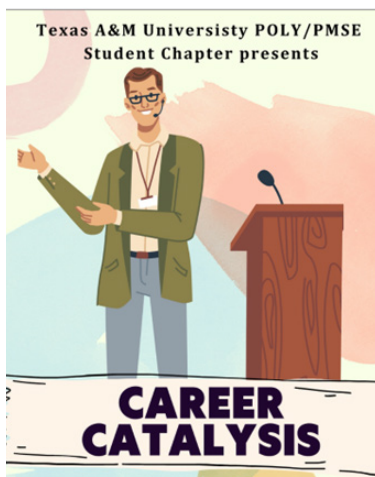
The Arizona State University student chapter hosted a tour of the local recycling and garbage center to demonstrate the scale of plastic waste in their community. This brought perspective to the importance of sustainability in science and polymer chemistry and sparked deep discussion.



**ASU student chapter on a tour of their local recycling center**

One of the newest student chapters, the FAMU-FSU chapter, hosted a POLY/PMSE Polymer Research Symposium which featured Dr. Nitash Balsara as the keynote speaker and many student oral/poster presentations.

The Texas A&M chapter organized a series of talks titled “Career Catalysis” aimed at educating graduate students on the diverse prospects in both academia and industry.



Finally, the student chapters organized their second annual symposium at the 2023 fall national ACS meeting in San Francisco. The symposium organizers included Jason Linn (University of Minnesota), Anne Radzanowski (University of Massachusetts Amherst), and Jackie Lopez (Cornell University). The students invited an excellent set of speakers from industry, academia, and national labs to provide exciting insights in their diverse career paths and research in polymer science. These are only a few examples of the excellent contributions the student chapters made to the polymer science community this year. The active student chapters and corresponding presidents are listed below. We couldn't be prouder of these amazing students!



**Poster session at FAMU-FSU Polymer Research Symposium**

## Student Chapters

University of Akron, Abdul Baghirov  
Arizona State University, Clarissa Westover  
Colorado State University, Ethan Quinn  
Florida A&M University and Florida State University, Zana Singleton  
University of Florida, Megan Lott & Rhys Hughes

University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Anne Radzanowski  
University of Michigan, Azam Hussain  
University of Minnesota, Jason Linn  
Southwest Ohio, Anthony Smith  
Texas A&M University, Randinu Pulukkody  
University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Jackie Zheng

Contributor: Kat Knauer, POLY Member-At-Large

## MACRO EDUCATION

The Macromolecular Alliance for Community Resources and Outreach (MACRO) is jointly sponsored by the POLY and PMSE technical divisions. Cochairs Philip Costanzo (POLY) and Elizabeth S. Sterner (PMSE) lead a group of volunteers offering professional development events and resources, generating curricular modules for undergraduate chemistry courses, and developing a repository of polymer-based outreach activities. All of these resources can be accessed through the MACRO website at <https://macro-poly-pmse.org/>.

Curricular resources consist of lecture slides (PowerPoint and PDF) for use in the classroom and a paired instructor support document that contains additional background information, suggested pedagogy, and a list of further resources. Slides with voiceover and videos are also available. To date, the modules available include basic definitions and concepts, fundamentals of polymer synthesis (condensation polymerization of acyl functional groups, addition polymerization of alkenes, and polymer stereochemistry), and polymer characterization (FTIR, NMR, and SEC). The Curriculum subcommittee has two initiatives for this fall: complete the review process of a new wave of modules (polymer molecular weight definitions, determining molecular weight, and intro to viscoelastic theory) and solicit topics and volunteers for modules on polymer physical chemistry. Interested members should send an email to [esterner@lvc.edu](mailto:esterner@lvc.edu).

The Professional Development section of the MACRO website contains a number of resources for polymer chemists and scientists from the undergraduate to early career researchers (academic and otherwise), including advice on applications, interviews, grants, and group management. Bhavya Singhi manages an ongoing series of professional development events. In August she mediated a Web panel on "Navigating Graduate Studies". Upcoming in November will be another panel on REU applications and summer internships. Volunteers or panels or suggestions for Web panel topics can be sent to [bsinghi@zeusinc.com](mailto:bsinghi@zeusinc.com).

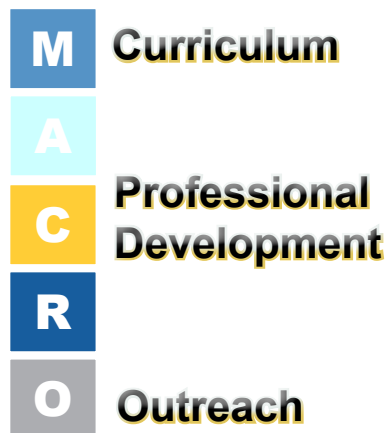
On the Outreach page, we've begun to create a depository of materials for individuals to be able to spread their passion and knowledge of science to the general population. MACRO launched an interface where individuals can share what they are currently utilizing in their communities and receive appropriate recognition for their contributions to the Polymer community. We've begun to solicit individuals to create content and have posted several modules. New developments: We will be hosting an outreach competition with a prize pool up to \$2500. Submissions should describe community events, including the overall scientific concept and methodology for putting on the event. This contest will occur at the upcoming National Spring ACS meeting in collaboration with the "Incorporating Polymer Science in the Classroom" symposium. Applicants should submit an abstract to that symposium and come to the meeting to present their activity. The goal of this contest is to produce shareable content to be displayed upon the MACRO website. Entries will be reviewed and will receive feedback on the preparation of materials to be distributed. Please direct any contest questions to Phil Costanzo ([pcostanz@calpoly.edu](mailto:pcostanz@calpoly.edu)).

Contributors: Elizabeth S. Sterner, Philip Costanzo, Madhura Pade, and Bhavya Singhi

### INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING?

On behalf of the ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry, we would like to invite you to consider advertising in the POLY Newsletter. Our non-profit organization distributes the POLY Newsletter to approximately 4,000 of its polymer scientist members. The POLY NEWSLETTER is distributed in June and October each year and describes the Division activities and announces polymer-related scientific activities worldwide. The POLY Newsletter provides an excellent opportunity for advertising.

Complete information is available by going to: <https://www.polyacs.net/newsletter>.

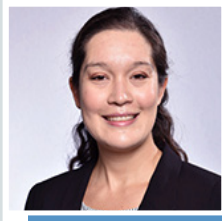


# POLY/ACS NATIONAL MEETING ACTIVITY



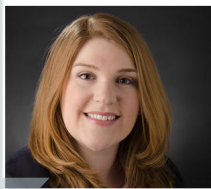
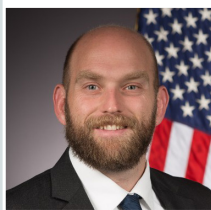
**March 17-21, 2024 \*New Orleans, LA**  
**268th ACS National Meeting (Spring)**  
**ACS Theme: Many Flavors of Chemistry**  
**Lead Program Chair: Levi Moore** ([levi.moore.1@us.af.mil](mailto:levi.moore.1@us.af.mil))

- Advances in Ring-Opening Polymerizations/Ring-Closing Depolymerizations
- Bioinspired Coacervates: Fundamental Studies and Applications
- Excellence in Graduate Polymer Research
- General Topics: New Synthesis and Characterization of Polymers
- Incorporating Polymer Science into the Classroom
- Industrial Innovations in Polymer Science
- Many flavors of Polymer Chemistry for 3D Printing
- Nonlinear chemical phenomena in polymeric systems
- Paul J. Flory Polymer Education Award in Honor of Charles L. McCormick
- Polymer binders in highly filled systems
- Polymer Industry in the Southern U.S.: Global Impact, Local Flavor
- Structure to Function in Supramolecular Polymers and Materials
- Undergraduate Research in Polymer Science



**August 18-21, 2024 \*Denver, CO**  
**269th ACS National Meeting (Fall)**  
**ACS Theme: Elevating Chemistry**  
**Lead Program Chair: Danniebelle Haase** ([DHaase@dow.com](mailto:DHaase@dow.com))

- ACS Macro Letters/Biomacromolecules/Macromolecules Young Investigator Award
- Advances in Fluorine-Containing Polymers and Composites
- Advancing Protection Through Materials Design
- Climbing Macromolecular Ladders: Elevating the Design, Synthesis, Properties, and Applications of Ladder Polymers
- General Topics
- Henkel Award for Outstanding Graduate Research in Polymer Science & Engineering
- Industrial Innovations in Polymer Science
- Industrial Polymer Scientist Award
- Mark Scholar Award
- Mark Senior Scholar Award
- Mark Young Scholar Award
- Phosphorus-Containing Polymers
- Polymer Sustainability: Renewable feedstocks and eco-friendly synthetic strategies
- Pushing the Limits of Macromolecular Architecture



## Programming Team

Pictured top to bottom:

Danniebelle Haase  
[DHaase@dow.com](mailto:DHaase@dow.com)

Julia Kalow  
[jkalow@northwestern.edu](mailto:jkalow@northwestern.edu)

Levi Moore  
[levi.moore.1@us.af.mil](mailto:levi.moore.1@us.af.mil)

Sara Orski  
[sara.orski@nist.gov](mailto:sara.orski@nist.gov)

## Spring 2024 Call for Abstracts: Due October 2, 2023

### POLY GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- A POLY abstract includes title, authors, affiliations, abstract text, and a key figure
- The word limit for national meetings is 300 words (2500 characters)
- An image counts for a total of 70 words (560 characters)

- **ACS National Meeting:** [www.acs.org/content/acs/en/meetings/national-meeting.html](http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/meetings/national-meeting.html)
- **POLY Program Info:** <https://polyacs.org/poly-at-national-accs-meetings/>
- **ACS Symposia Submission:** <https://polyacs.org/symposium-proposal-online-form/>



### POLY Councilors

Pictured left to right: Kathryn Beers, Mary Ann Meador, Greg Tew, and Kathryn Uhrich

## POLY COUNCILORS' REPORT

The ACS Fall Meeting was held in San Francisco from August 13-17 with 15,019 registrations (13,363 in-person and 1,656 online). The ACS Council meeting was held August 16th as a hybrid meeting. Five new members were elected to the Council Policy Committee (CPC); Five new members were elected to the Committee on Committees (ConC); Six new members were elected to the Committee on Nominations and Elections (N&E). CEO Albert Horvath shared on ACS's efforts to engage more members while recruiting and retaining talented staff in the post-pandemic workplace. He also provided an update on ACS Strategic Initiatives. The Society's financial performance continues to be strong. CPC voted to discontinue the Councilor Travel Expense Program and replace it with the Councilor Attendance Incentive Allotment program effective January 1, 2024. Local Sections and Divisions will need to opt into the Program. Both N&E and CPC supported, and Council approved the Petition to add International Representation to the Board of Directors. This decreased the Directors-at-Large total from six to five and created an International District Director. Following approval by the Board of Directors, the amendment will require support from two-thirds majority of voting members.

## REGIONAL MEETINGS

### Midwest-Great Lakes Regional Meeting (MWRM-GLRM)

October 18, 2023  
St. Louis, MO

### Southeastern Regional Meeting (SERMACS)

October 25, 2023  
Durham, NC

### Southwest Regional Meeting (SWRM)

November 15, 2023  
Oklahoma City, OK

### Northwest Regional Meeting (NORM)

June 23, 2024  
Pullman, WA

### Future ACS Meetings

Many Flavors of Chemistry  
March 17 - 21, 2024  
New Orleans, LA

Elevating Chemistry  
August 18 - 21, 2024  
Denver, CO

ACS Spring 2025  
March 23-27, 2025  
San Diego, CA

ACS Fall 2025  
August 17-21, 2025  
Washington D.C.

### CONNECTING WITH POLY MEANS CONNECTING WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

POLY E-LIST

<https://polyacs.org/poly-electronic-discussion-list/>

POLY WEB

[www.polyacs.org](http://www.polyacs.org)

[@POLY\\_ACS](http://www.twitter.com/POLY_ACS)



[www.facebook.com/ACSPOLY/](http://www.facebook.com/ACSPOLY/)  
"ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry"



<http://bit.ly/youtubepoly>  
"ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry"



[www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com)  
"Division of Polymer Chemistry"



Is there anything you would like to see in the POLY Newsletter?

Email suggestions to:  
CARLEEL@VT.EDU



**Jeffery A. Byers** passed away on August 18, 2023, in Boston, Massachusetts. Jeff deepened his love for chemistry in the labs of Karen Wooley at Washington University at St. Louis, and obtained his PhD in chemistry at the California Institute of Technology in 2007 under the direction of John Bercaw. Jeff built his life in Boston with his beloved wife, Crystal, where he worked as a tenured chemistry professor at Boston College. He was committed to scholarship, advancing scientific knowledge and encouraging new generations of diverse students and scientists to think critically and conscientiously. Jeff's work was his passion; he combined his love of nature and chemistry focusing his research on ecofriendly plastics, alternative fuels and sustainable processes. His research spanned fundamental studies of chemical reactions of transition metal elements to applications in pharmaceutical building blocks and synthetic materials. His work exemplified creativity in designing molecular catalysts and fastidious attention to detail as his team endeavored to understand how chemical reactions worked. Jeff brought together the communities and causes he cared about. His research group at BC was like family and he often hosted camping trips and cooked holiday meals for them. Jeff loved good food, great wines and authors, Cardinals baseball, the symphony, ballet and movies. He was a deeply loving, loyal friend and partner, always offering smiles and comfort, wry witticisms, a strong honest voice, a can-do outlook and a challenge for growth. Jeff was born on June 10, 1978. Growing up in Las Cruces, New Mexico, Jeff loved the outdoors. He was an active member of the Boy Scouts of America and achieved the rank of Eagle Scout.



**Lewis J. (Lew) Fetters** passed away on June 7, 2023, in Towson, Maryland, from complications of Parkinson's disease. He was 87 years old. Lew was internationally known for his fundamental or seminal work in anionic polymerization high-vacuum techniques and for using the resulting well-defined model materials in collaborative research directed toward elucidating the fundamental physics and physical chemistry of polymers. He was an international leader in exploring the influence of macromolecular architecture and conformational characteristics on the bulk, melt, and solution properties of polymers. His work was highly fundamental in nature but led to numerous practical applications. Lew was a prolific scientist, publishing around 320 peer reviewed publications, with 23,000 citations and an h-index of 82, according to Web of Science. In recognition of his many outstanding scientific contributions, Lew has received many scientific honors and awards. To name a few, he was the recipient of the first Creative Polymer Chemistry Award of ACS in 1981. Lew was recognized as a Fellow by the American Physical Society and he received the APS Polymer Physics Prize in 2000, despite being a chemist by training. Also in 2000, he received the ACS Applied Polymer Science Award. In 2020 Lew was the recipient of the ACS Rubber Division's Chemistry of Thermoplastic Elastomers Award. Lew loved science, American history, art, music, animals, and fine wine. He cared deeply about his students, colleagues, and collaborators, often inviting visiting scientists, in particular international collaborators, to share his home. Lew was loved and admired; he was an inspirational mentor to us and so many others. We mourn his loss.



**Lesia L. Pristas** passed away June 25, 2023, after a short battle with cancer at the young age of 50 years. Lesia served the Division as an Administrative Program Administrator for 22 years. During this time, she enthusiastically served as POLY Workshop Coordinator guiding 4-6 workshops to success every year for decades. She handled hotel contracts, budget development, meeting websites, registration oversight, program development, and on-site meeting service. She provided support to the Industrial Advisory Board for many years, supporting the mission of the IAB in engaging industrial members and ensuring their participation via support for IAB Socials and Board Breakfasts at National Meetings and in aiding organizers for the longstanding Industrial Innovations in Polymer Science Symposium which is now approaching its 10-year anniversary. She also worked closely with the Division Chair to plan and execute the ExComm winter meetings and special dinners. Speaking and educating others on how to live better, healthier lives was Lesia's passion. She was the owner and lead dancer of the "Back Porch Studio" where she inspired people of all ages to dance with heart. She led Weightwatchers meetings in her community guiding the community on their journey to self-improvement. Lesia will be remembered as a gifted motivational speaker who shared her love for life enthusiastically with others. Her support will be sincerely missed by her co-workers and too-many-to-count POLY friends.

## TREASURER'S REPORT



POLY Treasurer  
Christine Coltrain  
Eastman Kodak

This table below is a summary of the 2022 activity, the 2023 approved budget, and the 2023 income and expenditures for POLY as of July, 2023. POLY is a non-profit organization and as such, the Executive Committee is challenged to provide excellent services and growing benefits for its members while maintaining a balanced annual budget.

POLY continues to actively support its membership, financially and through networking opportunities and services. In addition to programming at National and Regional meetings, Student Chapters and topical workshops organized by POLY members offer great value to both the Division and our members. We continue to emphasize the importance of in-person participation in meetings and workshops, as this provides a plurality of benefits and interactions. In an attempt to catch up on the 2020-21 cancellations, POLY offered six workshops during 2022, however, as our supporting staff has been reduced, POLY will only offer 3 workshops in 2023. POLY will also be sponsoring the 18th Polymer Pacific Conference (PPC) to be held in December 2023.

I am happy to report that POLY has remained financially healthy. The dedicated POLY family has worked very hard to minimize spending and maximize output throughout the past several years. As of July 2023, POLY had \$1.04M in investments which continues to support the budget annually.

So as to best serve our membership, POLY continues to look for ways to reduce expenditures via increased virtual and electronic distributions, such as the enhanced and interactive POLY Newsletter and Webinars. The new Education Committee has been actively organizing symposia and continuing to add excellent content to the MACRO website for our younger and aspiring members. POLY leaders and members continue to generate innovative ideas and energetically apply for and receive Innovative Project Grants (IPG) and Convergent Research Community IPG grants. The IAB (Industrial Advisory Board of POLY) continues to support, organize symposia, and sponsor awards aimed at our members in industry.

POLY continues to highlight an array of awards and to annually fund (through the POLY investment fund) its major awards including the Carl Marvel-Creative Polymer Chemistry Award, the Herman Mark-Polymer Chemistry Award, the Paul Flory-Polymer Education Award, and the Industrial Polymer Science Award.

POLY is extremely grateful for the contributions from our current ACS National Meeting and Awards sponsors, including ACS Pubs, MacroLetters, BioMacromolecules, Macromolecules, Henkel, POLY-IAB, Springer Nature-MRS Communications, and TOSOH, and continues to seek additional sponsors for receptions, coffee sessions, awards including student and poster awards, newsletters, and workshops, to help offset growing expenses. Please contact Christine Coltrain, [ccoltrain.sci@gmail.com](mailto:ccoltrain.sci@gmail.com), or Kathy Mitchem, [kathyL@vt.edu](mailto:kathyL@vt.edu) for further information about these opportunities.

The 2024 POLY budget will be developed during December 2023 and approved during the POLY Executive Committee Meeting in January 2024. Please submit requests for funding for committee activity, symposium support, and other POLY related activity directly to the POLY Treasurer, Christine Coltrain by December 1, 2023.

Budget Category	2022 YE Actual		2023 Budget		2023 Jan-July	
	Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Income	Expense
Dues / ACS Allocations	\$128,346	—	\$122,700	—	\$91,738	—
National/Regional/Other Meetings Activities	\$36,620	\$155,627	\$51,000	\$206,500	\$58,249	\$125,156
Workshop Activities	\$306,022	\$298,238	\$371,100	\$336,600	\$104,916	\$56,957
Administrative	\$4,373	\$215,780	\$0	\$176,700	\$992	\$117,262
Publication / Advertising	\$4,176	\$3,328	\$4,600	\$3,300	\$4,077	\$1,161
Committee / Awards Activities	\$34,096	\$55,800	\$34,100	\$64,175	\$17,000	\$26,885
Cashed Investments / Savings	\$140,000	\$0	\$203,775	\$0	\$75,000	\$0
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$653,634</b>	<b>\$728,773</b>	<b>\$787,275</b>	<b>\$787,275</b>	<b>\$351,973</b>	<b>\$327,420</b>



## ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry JOIN TODAY!

### BENEFITS:

- Eligibility for POLY Awards
- Jobs alerts through listserv
- Networking/professional development events for Academia, Industry, and Students
- Industrial activities through POLY Industrial Advisory Board
- Workshops and Webshops
- Webinars
- Recognition for membership

### HOW TO JOIN:

<https://www.polyacs.net/membership>



### FEES:

- 1<sup>st</sup> year FREE
- \$30 for ACS Members
- \$20 for ACS Student Members
- \$50 for Non-ACS Members

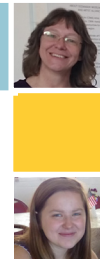
## POLY COMMUNITY EVENT CALENDAR

Consider spotlighting your event with other notables in the field on POLY's community event calendar!

Email: [carleel@vt.edu](mailto:carleel@vt.edu) with details of your contribution to the POLY Calendar.

POLY Event Calendar: <http://bit.ly/polycalendar>

## Contact POLY for Advertising Opportunities, Membership Benefits, & More



- Newsletter & E-news Advertising
- Membership Benefits
- POLY Workshops
- POLY Webinars
- ACS National Meetings
- POLY Sponsored Events

POLY Business Office  
1075 Life Science Circle, M.C. 0917  
ICTAS II, Virginia Tech  
Blacksburg, VA 24061  
540-231-3029, [KATHYL@VT.EDU](mailto:KATHYL@VT.EDU)

## ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry, Inc. - Executive Committee

### CHAIR

ALLAN GUYMON  
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### PAST CHAIR

SEMRA COLAK ATAN  
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### ALTERNATE COUNCILORS

PHILIP COSTANZO  
CAL POLY

### CHAIR-ELECT

DAWANNE POREE  
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WEI GAO  
Dow

### VICE CHAIR

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### MEMBER-AT-LARGE

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ExComm & Past Chairs Dinner, Fall 2023