

Dear APS DPOLY community,

*please take special note of asterisks items below

It was great to see many of you during the March APS meeting in Boston during the first week of March 2019. While, Boston was snowy and cold, the meeting was full of warm interactions. The DPOLY once again demonstrated very strong showing at the March 2019 APS meeting. Many thanks to Professor David Simmons, the 2019 Program Chair, and to his collaborators, for putting together an outstanding APS DPOLY meeting schedule. Even though we are one of the smallest divisions (current membership 1554 members) we have delivered nearly 900 presentations (posters & talks) during the March 2019 APS meeting. You do the math yourself to see how well we have done relative to our size. No other division has had such a strong showing during the March APS meeting as DPOLY. Thank you all for participating!

The meeting commenced with a short course on x-ray and neutron scattering. Many thanks to Professor Gila Stein (University of Tennessee) for organizing it and to the numerous presenters and attendees who have taken part in this successful event.

During the 2019 March APS meeting **we celebrated the winners** of the Polymer Physics Prize (Professor Ronald Larson, University of Michigan) and the John H. Dillon Medal (Professor Zahra Fakhraai, University of Pennsylvania). Congratulations to both Ron and Zahra!

Slides from these presentations are online:

Ron Larson, <https://absuploads.aps.org/presentation.cfm?pid=14410>

Zahra Fakhraai, <https://absuploads.aps.org/presentation.cfm?pid=14468>

We have also witnessed **outstanding** (once again!) presentations in the **Frank J. Padden, Jr. symposium**, sponsored by U. Akron. All 11 presenters did a great job and we are pleased to celebrate the winner of the symposium, Ms. Liwen Chen and her research advisor Professor Sangwoo Lee (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute). Congratulations to Liwen and Sangwoo!



Liwen Chen, 2019 Frank J. Padden Jr. award winner

<https://www.aps.org/units/dpoly/awards/padden-winner.cfm>

The poster session has traditionally been one of the highlights of the March APS meeting. This year we had 161 posters! Many thanks to all presenters and also to Professors Connie Roth and Pinar Akcora for organizing the event. Special thanks go to the 37 DPOLY members who acted as judges.

The winners of this year's DPOLY poster session are:

First place: Bill Wheatle (University of Texas at Austin), advisor: Professor Venkat Ganesan

Second place: Beatrice Soh (MIT), advisor: Professor Patrick Doyle

Third place: Justin Paloni (MIT), advisor: Professor Brad Olsen



1.)



2.)



3.)

DPOLY poster winners

<https://www.aps.org/units/dpoly/awards/poster.cfm>

We are very grateful to Dr. Jenny Mahoney (Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Polymer Science Part B: Polymer Physics) for sponsoring the awards for our three winners.

Congratulations to all winners and many thanks to all who presented their work.

We thank Dr. Andrew Lovinger (NSF) for talking to the DPOLY members about current and upcoming funding opportunities at the NSF.

The DPOLY has also featured the presentation from Dr. Ignacio Martin-Fabiani (Loughborough University, the UK), **our honored guest from the UKPPG** (Polymer Physics Group of the IoP). His presentation is online at <https://absuploads.aps.org/presentation.cfm?pid=14519>. We are pleased to announce that the **DPOLY has selected Professor Muzhou (Mitchell) Wang** (Northwestern University) to represent our unit at the 2019 Polymer Physics Group meeting of the Institute of Physics, the UK, September 11 – 13, 2019 in Lincoln, UK. <http://paps19.iopconfs.org/764228> Congratulations to Mitchell.



Mitchell Wang, 2019 UKPPG lecturer

*** The June 3, 2019 deadline is approaching for APS Fellowship, Polymer Physics Prize, and Dillon Medal nominations! Just a reminder that this is a hard deadline.** Learn more and submit your nominations using the links below.

1. Polymer Physics Prize (<https://www.aps.org/programs/honors/prizes/polymer.cfm>)

2. Dillon Medal (<https://www.aps.org/programs/honors/prizes/dillon.cfm>)
3. APS Fellowship (<https://www.aps.org/programs/honors/fellowships/nominations.cfm>)

Please nominate your colleagues for these awards! Based on the APS rules, you may write only one nominating (or co-sponsoring) for each the Polymer Physics Prize or the Dillon Medal Award. However, APS members are allowed to write multiple nominating or co-sponsoring letters for the APS Fellowship. If you are unsure if a deserving colleague is an APS fellow, ask or look them up in the APS member directory. We encourage you to nominate our colleagues for these awards, and particularly encourage nominations of our female colleagues and members of minority under-represented groups.

The APS DPOLY plans to launch a major campaign aiming at increasing the **DPOLY membership** during the 2019-2020 period. Specifically, we will work closely with our international colleagues and continue reaching out to industry partners. While we have remained at 1500 (+/-) members during the past few years (see the current number above), the APS overall has been growing steadily and reaching 55+ thousand members this year. This growth has affected our standing within the APS as a unit. The APS membership influences the number of invited sessions and the number of APS Fellowships assigned to DPOLY. While we have been able to maintain the number of the invited sessions at 8, the number of APS Fellowship slots has decreased from 6 (just a few years ago) to 4 (currently). You can help us increase the DPOLY membership. Please, encourage your colleagues, collaborators, students, friends to sign up for the DPOLY membership (the first year is free, following years cost only \$10/year), review your APS membership and make sure that you include DPOLY. Your action will help DPOLY to improve its standing within the APS.

*** There is still time to contribute your thoughts/input to the APS March Meeting 2020 programming!** The DPOLY program chair, Connie Roth (cbroth@emory.edu), has been working hard to develop excellent programming for the DPOLY APS March Meeting 2020 in Denver. While the programming is shaping up nicely, Connie still accepts **your ideas and suggestions** concerning specific sessions from the DPOLY community. If you are interested in organizing/co-organizing a Focus Session or an Invited Session at the upcoming March Meeting, Connie would love to know your input by the end of May 2019. Please email your ideas to her directly at cbroth@emory.edu.

The APS DPOLY Executive Committee