

# KAUST Research Conference Designing Macromolecules for a Sustainable Future

November 4-8, 2023



### **Greeting from the Chairman**

Sustainability is a way that encourages not only economic growth but also promotes efficient, sustainable practices with effective solutions to protect our environment and our natural resources for the future. Polymer sustainability is, therefore, very important worldwide, with consumers, business leaders, and governments continuing to push for a circular polymer economy. Our research conference on Designing Macromolecules for a Sustainable Future targets advanced synthetic approaches and new characterization techniques, properties, and applications contributing to the circular polymer economy. We aim to bring eminent scientists working at the frontiers of polymers worldwide who will transfer and discuss the latest developments in the circular polymer economy.

On behalf of the KAUST Catalysis Center (KCC), the Chemistry Program, SABIC, and the Conference Organizing Committee, we welcome all participants and hope for a productive and enjoyable stay at KAUST and in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

# **Welcome Reception**

November 4, 2023, Saturday (Al Khozama Hotel)

19:00 – 21:00 Welcome Reception Sponsored by Shipchem

November 5, 2023, Sunday (Auditorium 215 between Bldg. 4 8
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07:30 - 08:00 Breakfast-Registration

08:00 – 08:30 Welcome Remarks: Tony F. Chan, President; Nikos Hadjichristidis,

**Conference Chair** 

Session 1 – Polymer Synthesis (Dedicated to the late Professor Yusuf Yağci)			
Chair: Nikos Hadjichristidis - Brigitte Voit			
00.20 00.00	Krzysztof	Functional Materials by Macromolecular	
08:30 – 09:00	Matyjaszewski	Engineering Using ATRP	
09:00 - 09:30	Ben Zhong Tang	Constructing Functional Polymers from AlEgens	
09:30 - 10:00	Tsutomu Yokozawa	Synthesis of Hyperbranched Polymers with High Degree of Polymerization and 100% Degree of Branching from $A_2 + B_3$ Polycondensation	
10:00 - 10:30	Coffee Break		
10:30 – 11:00	Axel. H.E. Müller	Toward Sustainable Thermoplastic Elastomers: Tapered Block and Multiblock Copolymers with New Terpene-Based Monomers	
11:00 - 11:30	Cyrille Boyer	Nanostructure Control in 3D Printing through Polymerization Self-Assembly Process	
11:30 – 12:00	Richard Hoogenboom	Functional Polymers Through Amidation of Poly(methyl acrylate)	
12:00 - 14:00	Lunch (Campus Diner, b	y invitation)	
	Session 2 – Po	olymers Circular Economy	
_	Chair: Suzana	Nunez - Axel. H.E. Müller	
		Sustainable Polyesters: Combining Bio-based	
14:00 – 14:30	Brigitte Voit	Resources with Function Integration	
14:30 – 15:00	Katja Loos	Unleashing the Potential of Enzymes for Green Furan-Based Polymer Synthesis	
15:00 – 15:30	Renaud Nicolaÿ	Phase Separation and Reactive Processing: Two Effective Tools to Improve the Performance and Processability of Vitrimers	
15:30 – 16:00	Haritz Sardon	Use of Naturally Occurring Catalyst for Polymerization and Depolymerization Reactions	
16:00 - 16:30	Coffee Break		
		Isomerization of Poly(ethylene glycol) to rPEGs	
16:30 – 17:00	Holger Frey	Opens up New Perspectives for Biomaterials and Therapeutic Nanocarriers	
17:00 – 17:30	Athina Anastasaki	Deconstructing Polymers Synthesized by Controlled Radical Polymerization	
17:30 – 18:00	Brett P. Fors	Development and Applications of New Synthetic Strategies for Polymer Science	

### November 6, 2023, Monday (Parallel Session I) (Bldg. 5, Level 5, Room 5220)

07:45 - 08:30 Breakfast

Session 3 – Polymer Properties and Applications Chair: Manickam Jayakannan - Mohammad Tayeb			
08:30 - 09:00	Spiros Anastasiadis	Development of Functional Surfaces with Controllable Wettability and Water Adhesion	
09:00 - 09:30	Suzana Nunez	High-Performance Polymers and Membranes for Sustainable Separations	
09:30 - 10:00	Maria Vamvakaki	Backbone Degradable Polymers and Polymer Hydrogels	
10:00 – 10:30	0:00 – 10:30     Coffee Break		
10:30 - 11:00	Hermis latrou	Multi-Responsive Nanostructured Materials for the Targeted Delivery of Anticancer Agents	
11:00 – 11:30	Junpeng Zhao	Janus Catalytic Effect Enables Sequence- Controlled Binary Copolymerization	
11:30 – 12:00	Sanjay Rastogi	Single Crystal Formation of Ultra-high Molar Mass Polymers During Polymerization	
12:00 – 14:00	Lunch (Campus Diner, by invitation)		
Session 4 - Polymer Properties and Applications Chair: Asha Syamakumari			
14:00 – 14:30	Alfonso Caraveo	Battery Safety and Self-quenching Battery Pack: D³ (Dissipate, Direct, and Douse Heat and Fire) for Automotive and Grid Batteries	
14:30 – 15:00	Cafer Yavuz	Chemistry of Ladder Polymers with Intrinsic Microporosity	
Poster Session (16:00-18:00; Bldg-9, Level 2)			

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Gala Dinner Sponsored by SABIC (19:30; Al Khozama Hotel, La Cucina restaurant (1st floor), by invitation)

### November 6, 2023, Monday (Parallel Session II) (Bldg. 5, Level 5, Room 5209)

Breakfast 07:45 - 08:30

Session 5 – Polymer Properties and Applications			
Chair: Albena Lederer - Katja Loos			
08:30 - 09:00	Swaminathan Sivaram	Porous Functional Polymers as Separators for Lithium Ion Batteries	
09:00 – 09:30	Apostolos Avgeropoulos	Complex Architecture Silicon Containing Copolymers as Potential Candidates for Nanopatterning Applications	
09:30 – 10:00	Niveen Khashab	Self-Assembled Smart Composites with Molecular Actuators for Sensing and Soft Robotics Applications	
10:00 – 10:30	10:30 Coffee Break		
10:30 - 11:00	Hiroshi Jinnai	Reassessing Chain Tilt in the Lamellar Crystals of Polyethylene by Electron-Diffraction Imaging	
11:00 – 11:30	Gilles Lubineau	High Performance Composite Bonding: A Material or Structural Challenge?	
11:30 – 12:00	Antonios Doufas	How to Build a Circular Economy for Polymers: New Developments and Gaps	
12:00 – 14:00	Lunch (Campus Diner, by invitation)		
Session 6 - Polymer Properties and Applications Chair: Hermis latrou			
	Citair	A Stimuli-Responsive Polymeric Microneedle	
14:00 – 14:30	Dana Al-Sulaiman	Based on High Renewable Carbon Content  Materials	
14:30 – 15:00	Gyorgy Szekely	Polymer Membranes for Molecular Sieving in Organic Solvents	
Poster Session (16:00-18:00; Bldg-9, Level 2)			

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Gala Dinner Sponsored by SABIC (19:30; Al Khozama Hotel, La Cucina restaurant (1st floor), by invitation)

### November 7, 2023, Tuesday (Auditorium 215 between Bldg. 4 & 5)

07:45 - 08:30 Breakfast

Session 7 – Polymer Characterization and Properties Chair: Swaminathan Sivaram - Magnus Rueping		
08:30 - 09:00	Albena Lederer	Advanced Field-Flow Fractionation for Supramolecular and Complex Macromolecular Structures
09:00 - 09:30	Luigi Cavallo	The Mechanics Ruling Polymerizations for a Greener Sustainable Future
09:30 – 10:00	Dimitris Vlassopoulos	Using Loopy Topology to Optimize Materials Properties
10:00 – 10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30 - 11:00	Subramaniam Ramakrishnan	Photo-cross-stitching of Folded Periodically Grafted Amphiphilic Polymers
11:00 – 11:30	Evelyne van Ruymbeke	Dynamics of Metallo-Supramolecular Polymer Networks: From their Composition to their Viscoelastic Properties
11:30 – 12:00	Asha Syamakumari	Exploring Eco-Friendly Synthetic Strategies for P(NDI <sub>2</sub> OD-T <sub>2</sub> ) and its Device Applications
12:00 – 14:00	Lunch (Campus Diner, by invitation)	
16:00 – 19:00	Boat Trip with Dinner Sponsored by Saudi Aramco	

### November 8, 2023, Wednesday (Auditorium 215 between Bldg. 4 & 5)

Breakfast

Francisco D. Nieves

**Closing Remarks/Poster Awards** 

Lunch (Campus Diner, by invitation)

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08:15 - 09:00

11:00 - 11:30

11:30 - 12:00

12:00 - 14:00

Session 8: Polymer Properties and Applications Chair: Holger Frey - Subramaniam Ramakrishnan			
09:00 - 09:30	Manickam Jayakannan	Unexplored Territory of $m{ heta}$ -Sheet Polypeptides and Their Biomedical Applications	
09:30 – 10:00	George Fytas	Hypersonic Phononic Hybrid Metamaterials	
10:00 – 10:30	Coffee Break		
10:30 - 11:00	Bhoje Gowd	Hierarchical Structure Formation in Poly(lactides): Role of Polymer Chain Packing on the Emissive Properties of Chromophore	

**Embedded Poly(Lactide)s** 

Non-metallic Materials: Supporting the

**Decarbonization of the Automotive Sector** 

# **Campus Map**



- Conference: Auditorium 215 between Building 4 & 5
- Parallel Session: Building 5, Level 5, Room 5209 & 5220
- Poster Session: Building 9
- Hotel: Al Khozama Hotel & Residence
- Lunch: Campus Diner (Building 13)
- Gala Dinner: Al Khozama Hotel, La Cucina Restaurant

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### **Organizing Committee:**

### **Nikos Hadjichristidis**

Chair, Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, KAUST

### Suzana Nunes

Vice-Chair, Professor of Chemical and Environmental Science and Engineering and Vice-Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs, KAUST

### **Nikhil Verghese**

Vice-Chair, Corporate Fellow at SABIC's Corporate Technology and Innovation (T&I) Division, SABIC

This event is organized by the **Polymer Synthesis Group** and **KAUST Catalysis Center (KCC)** with financial support from the Office of Research Funding and Services (RFS).















For more information, please visit the Conference website at https://kcc.kaust.edu.sa/2023-11-conference/home