TENTATIVE PROGRAM

Polymer Research & Engineering (PRE-2026)

October 26-28, 2026 | Las Vegas, NV

Venue:

Hampton Inn Tropicana
4975 S. Dean Martin Dr.
Las Vegas, NV, 89118-1656
USA

Plenary Speakers

Harry R. Allcock

Pennsylvania State University
University Park, PA

Harry R. Allcock *is Atherton Professor and Evan Pugh Professor Emeritus of Chemistry at Pennsylvania State University, where he has served since 1966 with joint affiliations in Chemical Engineering and Biomedical Engineering. Born in Loughborough, England, he earned his B.Sc. and Ph.D. from the University of London. He is best known for discovering macromolecular substitution, leading to polyphosphazenes — polymers now used in fuel cells, batteries, and biomedical scaffolds. Author of over 660 papers, he was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 2014 and has received numerous ACS awards for his research.*

Richard Kaner

University of California Los Angeles
Los Angeles, CA

Richard B. Kaner is Distinguished Professor and Dr. Myung Ki Hong Endowed Chair in Materials Innovation at UCLA, holding joint appointments in the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry and the Department of Materials Science & Engineering. He earned his Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry from the University of Pennsylvania in 1984, working with Nobel Laureate Alan MacDiarmid, and joined UCLA's faculty in 1987. His research spans conducting polymers, superhard materials, graphene, and energy storage. A recipient of Dreyfus, Fulbright, Guggenheim, and Sloan Foundation awards, Kaner is consistently ranked among Clarivate's Highly Cited Researchers and is an elected Fellow of the American Physical Society.

Keynote Speakers

Kathryn E Uhrich

University of California-Riverside
Riverside, CA

Kathryn E. Uhrich is Distinguished Professor of Chemistry and former Dean of the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences at the University of California, Riverside. She earned her B.S. in Chemistry from the University of North Dakota and her Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry/Polymers from Cornell University, followed by postdoctoral work at AT&T Bell Laboratories and MIT. Her research focuses on bioactive, biodegradable polymers for drug delivery, tissue engineering, and sustainable technologies, including her invention of PolyAspirin. She has authored more than 200 publications and holds over 60 patents, and is a Fellow of the AAAS, the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering, and the National Academy of Inventors.

Gao Liu

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Berkeley, CA

Gao Liu is a Senior Scientist and Group Leader of the Applied Energy Materials Group at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, where he has worked since joining as a postdoctoral fellow in 2001. He earned his bachelor's degree from Beijing University in 1993 and his Ph.D. in Chemistry from Michigan State University in 2001. His research integrates synthetic chemistry, composite engineering, and electrochemistry to advance materials for lithium batteries, including conductive polymer binders and electrolytes for lithium-sulfur systems. Author of more than 200 peer-reviewed publications and 28 granted patents, he is a Fellow of the Electrochemical Society and the Royal Society of Chemistry.

Shuguang Deng

Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ

Shuguang Deng is a Professor of Chemical Engineering in the School for Engineering of Matter, Transport and Energy at Arizona State University, which he joined in 2015 after serving as the Distinguished Bob Davis Professor at New Mexico State University. He earned his B.S. (1984) and M.S. (1987) from Zhejiang University in China and his Ph.D. (1996) from the University of Cincinnati, all in chemical engineering, and brings 12 years of industrial R&D experience with Sinopec and BOC. His research focuses on new adsorbent materials, catalysts, and membranes for sustainable energy and clean water applications, including biofuel conversion from algae. He was awarded the Fulbright Distinguished Chair in Energy Conservation in 2012.

Paschalis Alexandridis

University at Buffalo
Getzville, NY

Paschalis Alexandridis is Distinguished Professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering at the University at Buffalo (SUNY), where he has served as Materials Science and Engineering program co-Director and Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education. He earned his Ph.D. in chemical engineering from MIT in 1994 and joined UB in 1997 following postdoctoral research in polymer and surfactant physical chemistry at Lund University in Sweden. His research applies molecular interactions and supramolecular assemblies to develop energy-efficient, environmentally friendly processes, including advanced sorting and chemical recycling of plastics. He has authored over 205 peer-reviewed articles and is an elected Fellow of AAAS, AIChE, and the Royal Society of Chemistry.

Miriam Rafailovich

Stony Brook University
Stony Brook, NY

Miriam Rafailovich is Distinguished Professor in the Department of Materials Science and Chemical Engineering at Stony Brook University, where she directs the Garcia Materials Research Science and Engineering Center and previously co-directed the Chemical and Molecular Engineering program. She earned her B.S. from Brooklyn College in 1974 and her Ph.D. in nuclear physics from SUNY Stony Brook. Her research spans surface and interface properties of polymer thin films, nanocomposite materials, phase segregation in polymer blends, nanofibers, and biodegradable polymers, using techniques such as X-ray and neutron reflection, atomic force microscopy, and Mössbauer spectroscopy. She has authored more than 500 peer-reviewed publications.

Brian P Grady

University of Oklahoma
Norman, OK

Brian P. Grady is the Douglas and Hilda Bourne Chair in Chemical Engineering and Director of the Institute for Applied Surfactant Research at the University of Oklahoma. He holds a B.S. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, both in Chemical Engineering. His research spans polymer composites, surfactant adsorption, oil-water interfaces, and polymer recycling. Author of over 160 journal papers and a book on carbon nanotube-polymer composites, he is a Fellow of AIChE and the Society of Plastics Engineers, and recipient of the 2025 NATAS Outstanding Achievement Award.

Session Topics

- Polymer Technology
- Polymer Engineering
- Polymer Composites
- Polymer Materials
- Polymer Chemistry
- Polymer Science
- Polymer Physics
- Polymer Plastics
- Functional Polymers
- Polymer Rheology
- Food Science in Polymers
- Nano & Biopolymers
- Synthetic Polymers
- Optoelectronic Polymers
- Supramolecular Polymers
- Polymer 3D Printing
- Smart & Functional Polymers
- Peptides, Fibers & Ceramics
- Polymers in Medicine & Biochemistry
- Synthesis & Characterization
- Advances & Applications
- Surfaces & Interfaces
- Polymer Waste & Recycling
- Polymer Emulsions

Speakers / Presenters

Show-An Chen

National Tsing Hua University
Taiwan

Interacting Emission Species among Donor and Acceptor Moieties in a Donor-Grafted Polymer Host/TADF-Guest System and Their Effects on Photoluminescence and Electroluminescence

---

Chao Zhao

University of Massachusetts
Amherst, MA

Spontaneous Non-Catalyzed Molecular Reactions and Interactions in the Human Body: Biomedical Implications

---

Stavros Karakalos

University of California
Merced, CA

Novel UHV Approach for Active Site Formation in Ziegler–Natta Catalysts for Olefin Polymerization

---

Stewart P. Lewis

Pyramid Polymers LLC
Zanesville, OH

Greening AlCl3-Based Polymerization of Olefins

Anthony M. Waas

Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ

Data-driven predictions of damage and failure in textile composites

---

Nuggehalli M Ravindra

New Jersey Institute of Technology
Newark, NJ

Recent advancements in composite materials and structures for energy applications

---

Seyhan Salman

Clark Atlanta University
Atlanta, GA

Narrow-Band Electrochromism of Ferrocene-Substituted Rhodamine B

Jeffrey Mark Halpern

University of New Hampshire
Durham, NH

Ion-Specific Modulation of Ferri/Ferrocyanide-Driven Gold Dissolution Uncovered by Quantitative Quartz Crystal Microbalance Analysis

---

E. Peter Maziarz

Haleon
Ashland, VA

Title to be Updated

Takeharu Haino

Hiroshima University
Japan

Supramolecular polymers based on molecular recognition of bisporphyrin clefts

---

Colleen Scott

Mississippi State University
Mississippi State, MS

Developing a shortwave infrared (SWIR) dye for the visualization of cancer cells

---

Fan Bean Wu

National United University
Taiwan

Effects of Atmospheric Pressure Plasma Treatment on Suppression of Fine Particles from Polymer Containers

---

Albert Poater

University of Girona
Spain

First Row Transition Metals in Olefin Metathesis: The Role of Iron and Manganese

---

Radhika Panickar

Alabama State University
Montgomery, AL

Title to be Updated

Bing Huei Chen

Fu Jen Catholic University
Taiwan

An improved lead detection method using poly(γ-glutamic acid)-functionalized gold nanoparticles and its application to lead adsorption by lignin and tea waste magnetic nanocomposites

---

Vaibhav Tiwari

Midwestern University
Downers Grove, IL

Marine Derived Natural Products: Emerging Therapeutics Against Herpes Simplex Virus Infection

---

Mayank Sukhija

Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR

Integrating balanced mix design for high reclaimed asphalt pavements in Oregon: adjustment in binder content and binder grade

---

Saman Ebrahimibasabi

Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ

Ultra-Sensitive Wireless Capacitive Nanocomposite-Based Pressure Sensors for Health Monitoring

---

Umesh Dhumal

University of Missouri
Columbia, MO

The elusive fluid-and-crystal coexistence state in simulations of monodisperse, hard-sphere colloids

---

Alberto Baldelli

University of Queensland
Australia

Transparent and water-resistant edible coatings for sustainable post-harvest preservation of banana

---

Jayachandran N Kizhakkedathu

University of British Columbia
Canada

Nontransformed and Cancer Cells Can Utilize Different Endocytic Pathways to Internalize Dendritic Nanoparticle Variants: Implications on Nanocarrier Design

---

Michael Grosshauser

Fraunhofer CCPE
Germany

From Polyolefin Recyclates to Geotextiles: Industrial Use Cases for a Circular Plastics Economy

Aravinda Bommareddy

ZF Electronics & ADAS
Farmington Hills, MI

Understanding Selection of adhesive for bonding optical lens and sensors in automotive safety cameras

Cristiano Luis Pinto Oliveira

University of São Paulo
Brazil

Multi-hierarchical Investigations of Human Hair

Lara Ahyaya

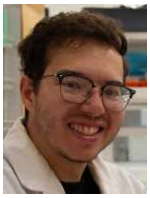
Université de Sherbrooke
Canada

Critical review on biopolymer-based coatings for paper applications: Main challenges toward more environmentally friendly and recyclable of paper

Luqman Umdagas

University of Birmingham
UK

Modelling and Mechanistic Insights into Supercritical Water Liquefaction of Polyolefins



Martin Zaki
Deakin University
Australia

What the Silkworm Can Teach Us About Engineering Better Fibres

---

Antonella Bandiera
University of Trieste
Italy

Smart HELP: from synthetic genes to bioactive coatings

Interested in presenting at PRE 2026?

Contact us at contact@coinsymposia.com, contact@polymerscience-conference.com

Oral and poster slots are available