राष्ट्रीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान कालिकट
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY CALICUT

Changing Trends in Polymer Science and Technology (CTPST-2021)

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DISTINGUISHED GUESTS AND INVITED SPEAKERS

Dr Swaminathan Sivaram

Dr. Swaminathan Sivaram is a Polymer Chemist by profession and a mentor as well as a science administrator of distinction. He is a former Director of the CSIR – National Chemical Laboratory, Pune (2002-10), Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Fellow of CSIR and J. C. Bose Fellow of the Department of Science and technology. Currently, he is an Honorary Professor and INSA Senior Scientist of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune. Dr. Sivaram is a highly decorated scientist with numerous awards and honours to his credit. He was conferred Padma Shri by the President of India in 2006. He is a recipient of the Gold Medal of the Chemical Research Society of India for his life-time achievements in chemistry (2019) and the International Award for distinguished contributions to polymer science, awarded by the Society of Polymer Science, Japan (2017). He was a founder Chairman and director of Venture Centre, A Section 8 company, Pune one of the first science driven technology business incubators in India. Dr. Sivaram 's research interest concerns polymer synthesis, surface chemistry of polymers, porous polymers

for energy related applications, biodegradable polymers, organic-inorganic hybrids, nanocomposites and structure-property relationship in polymers.

Dr K N Ninan

Dr K N Ninan is an Outstanding Scientist, Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (Retd) & Former Emeritus Professor of Indian Institute of Space Science & Technology, Trivandrum. He is a Member of International Academy of Astronautics, Fellow of Kerala Academy of Sciences and Honorary Fellow of Indian Society of Analytical Scientists & High Energy Materials Society of India. He was behind the establishment of a state of the art chemical characterization facility at VSSC. He made significant contributions for the development of rocket propellants, polymers and chemical systems for various ISRO missions. He initiated many R & D programmes to meet the future needs of ISRO in multi-areas. He also nurtured IIST in its formative years and gave guidance to the students for making the first student sounding rocket in India. He was ranked among world's top 2% scientists by Stanford University, USA (2020). He received ISRO Performance Excellence Award (2009) (from President of India), Life Time Achievement Awards of (i) Indian Society of Analytical Scientists (2019) & (ii) High Energy Materials Society of India (2013) and Netzsch – ITAS Award of Indian Thermal Analysis Society (1987).

Dr Sabu Thomas

Dr Sabu Thomas is an Indian Professor of international reputation. He has been identified as a top tier researcher across the globe with very high impact factor and citations. He is currently serving as the Vice-Chancellor of Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala. He is also a full professor of Polymer Science and Engineering at the School of Chemical Sciences of the University. He was the Pro-Vice Chancellor of Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala during the period of 31st August 2017 to 31st August 2018, Director of School of Chemical Sciences during the period of 1st November 2010 to 31st December 2013, and Hon. Director of International & Inter-University Centre for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology. He is ranked among world's top 2% scientists by Stanford University, USA (2020).

Dr S Ramakrishnan

Dr Ramakrishnan is a Professor in the IPC Department of Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. His researches are focused on the study of molecularly designed polymeric materials and the development of synthetic routes such as the transetherification for preparing segmented polyethylene oxide and their analogues to be used as solid polymer electrolytes. He received the Bronze Medal of the Chemical Research Society of India and the MRSI Medal of the Material Research Society of India in 2002. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research awarded him the

Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize, one of the highest Indian science awards, in 2005.He was elected as a fellow by the Indian Academy of Sciences in 2006.

Prof. Parameswar K. Iyer

Dr Iyer is a Professor Department of Chemistry & Centre for Nanotechnology of Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati. His doctoral work was carried out at the Silicates and Catalysis Division of Central Salt & Marine Chemicals Research Institute, Bhavnagar. He was a DuPont Postgraduate Researcher, at the Centre for Polymers and Organic Solids, University of California, Santa Barbara, California, USA during 2001-2003. Prof. Iyer's group is focused broadly on designing and fabricating functional material with controlled composition and architecture. Their endeavour involves the synthesis and exploration of unique physical properties of novel advanced materials, and utilization of these structures to design powerful new tools having applications in organic electronics, chemical and biological sensors and brain therapeutics.

Dr Kamendra P. Sharma

Dr Sharma is an Associate Professor in the Department of Chemistry of IIT Bombay. He had his doctoral level training at NCL Pune and post-doc at University of Bristol, UK. His research group focuses on the design and development of multi-functional nanomaterials via non-covalent interactions in a concoction of soft matter entities like proteins, polymers, surfactants, nanoparticles, and liquid crystals. One of the underlying aims of his lab is to fabricate soft nano(bio)materials those find applications in a variety of areas ranging from health to environment.

Dr. Priyadarsi De

Dr De is a Professor at Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Kolkata (IISER Kolkata). He completed his doctoral degree in the year of 2002. Later, he went to University of Massachusetts Lowell, USA, where he worked as a post-doctoral fellow in the group of Professor Rudolf Faust. Dr. De then joined the group of Professor Brent S. Sumerlin in Southern Methodist University, Dallas, USA and remained there till 2008. His research areas include RAFT polymerization of amino acid and fatty acid based monomers, polymeric-inorganic hybrid nanomaterials, polymeric polyelectrolytes, cross-linked polymeric hydrogels and organogels, polyperoxides and polysulfides.

Dr Suresh K I

Dr Suresh is a Senior Principal Scientist at NIIST (CSIR), Thiruvananthapuram. He holds a PhD in Applied Chemistry from IIT (ISM), Dhanbad. Earlier, he did M. Tech Polymer Technology at CUSAT, Kochi and M.Sc. Polymer Chemistry at MG University, Kottayam (with first rank). He received Marie Curie International Incoming Fellowship (MCIIF) of the European Commission under the 7th Framework Programme in 2008, and CSIR (India) – DAAD (Germany) Sandwich model fellowship in 2001. His areas of interest are polymer synthesis and characterization, mechanistic studies, product development, structure-property relationship studies. emulsion polymerization, latex film formation approach to nanocomposites with controlled surface, morphology, thermal and rheological properties, new monomers and polymers from renewable resources as sustainable feedstocks for the chemical industry, and controlled free radical polymerization techniques for the synthesis of well-defined polymers.

Dr Asha S K

Dr Asha is a Senior Principal Scientist at National Chemical Laboratory, Pune. Earlier, she was with GE Plastics, John F. Welch Tech. Centre, GE India Private Ltd., Bangalore, and then a scientist at National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (NIIST, CSIR) – Thiruvananthapuram. She is a member of Editorial Advisory Board (EAB) of Macromolecules. She received CRSI Bronze Medal in 2014, Kavita Maiti Purashkar during 2010-2011 and Young Research Award at the 5th IUMRS International Conference in Asia, Bangalore, in 1998. Her research is focused on developing novel pi-conjugated polymers for potential applications in energy harvesting and storage devices as well as for application as sensors. One of the main underlying principles of her research work is to make use of molecular self-organization to build higher ordered polymer architectures which can find potential applications in the opto-electronic industry.

Dr. Amer S. Singha

Dr Singha is a Professor and now the head of the department of Chemistry of NIT Hamirpur. He was also the Dean (Faculty welfare), and Registrar at NIT Hamir pur. His research interests include synthetic organic chemistry, materials chemistry, and composite materials. He possesses a special interest in the synthesis and characterization of natural fiber reinforced polymer composites. His group extensively investigates the dielectric, flammability and physico-chemical properties of surface functionalized natural fibres and reinforced composite materials. The group also carry out studies on bio-composite blend films.

Dr Raj Kumar Roy

Dr Roy is an Assistant Professor of Chemical Sciences at IISER Mohali. His research group is multi-disciplinary in nature and at the interface of Organic, Physical and Materials Chemistry. As a Polymer Chemistry research group, their motto is to design and synthesis new functional polymers for targeted applications. They endeavour the development and adaptation of synthetic methodology along with extensive physical characterization to achieve research objectives. Typical research programmes include fundamental investigation on polymerization mechanism and kinetics, plastic multiferroic materials, and biomimetic cascade reactions within the compartment of sequence-controlled polymer chains.

Dr Bhoje Gowd E

Dr Gowd is a Principal Scientist at NIIST (CSIR), Thiruvananthapuram. He received his Ph.D. from University of Pune, Pune He then worked as a post-doctoral fellow in Prof. Kohji Tashiro's group at Toyota Technological Institute, Nagoya, Japan and as an Alexander von Humboldt Fellow in Prof. Manfred Stamm's group at Leibniz Institute of Polymer Research, Dresden, Germany. In 2011, he accepted the senior scientist position at CSIR-NIIST. He was awarded the IUSSTF research fellowship in 2014 by Indo-US Science and Technology Forum and availed that fellowship at Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, New York, USA. Recently, he has been awarded the Raman Research Fellowship by CSIR to carry out the research at National Tsing Hua University, Hsinchu, Taiwan in Prof. Rong-Ming Ho's group. His research interests are in the areas of polymer self-assembly, nanostructured materials, biodegradable polymers, polymer/inorganic hybrid nanocomposites, and polymer-solvent complexes.

Dr Kartik R

Dr Kartik is an Examiner of Patents & Designs (Group 'A') at Indian Patent Office, Chennai. He holds Ph. D in polymer chemistry from IIT Madras. He is an expert in the gelation of chitosan using novel crosslinkers like carbon nanodots, metal compounds, lignins and polyanions.