



# ***PPS Newsletter***

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*November 2025 Information to Polymer Processing Society Members*

## **The PPS-2025 Americas Regional Conference, September 23-25, 2025, held in Guelph, Ontario, Canada, an excellent meeting**

The PPS-2025 Americas Regional Conference was held in Guelph, Ontario, Canada, on September 23 (Tue)-25 (Thu), 2025. The Conference was organized by Prof. Amar K. Mohanty, Prof. Manjusri Misra and their team from the University of Guelph at the Delta Hotel and Conference Center in Guelph (website: <https://pps2025.ca>).

There were 294 participants from 35 countries. There were 25 Symposia, 9 Plenary (2) and plenary panels (7), and 54 Keynote lectures. There were also 32 invited talks, 10 Honorary Sessions, and 100 contributed papers. There were also 76 poster presentations. Canada had the biggest list with 157 registrants, followed by USA with 47 registrants.

There were 25 general symposia. These were: Polymer Composites, Polymer Blends, Rheology, Molding and Manufacturing, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Industry 5.0, Recycling and Repurposing, Polymer Synthesis and Functionalization, Biodegradation and Compostability, Biopolymers, Morphology and Structural Development, Functional Polymer Systems, Additive Manufacturing, Foams and Porous Structures, Nanomaterials and Nanocomposites, Sustainability and Circular Economy, Polymer Packaging, Polymer Electronics, Energy Devices, and Catalysis, Sustainable Materials and Processing, Polymers and Environment, Polymer Films, Membranes, and Coating, Modelling and Simulation, Compounding and Compatibilization, Techno-Economic, Lifecycle and Socioeconomic Analysis, Microplastic Pollution, Mitigation, and Alternatives to PFAS, Polymers in Biomedical Applications.

The plenary speakers were: Prof. Rampi Ramprasad, School of Science and Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology, USA, Prof. Seeram Ramakrishna, Senior Professor of Materials Engineering National University of Singapore (NUS), Dr. Michael Irwin, Technology & Innovation, Woodbridge Foam Corporation, Canada, John Spalding, Vision Care R&D Process Engineering at Bausch & Lomb, Canada, Dr. Olaf Dolfin, CEO of the New Packaging Group, Canada, Prof. Kim Ragaert, Circular Chemical Engineering, Maastricht University, the Netherlands, Prof. John M. Torkelson, Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, Northwestern University, USA, Dr. Jan-Georg Rosenboom, Co-founder & CTO MacroCycle Technologies, USA, and Dr. Nicolas Cottenye, Vice President of Research and Development at UpSolv, Canada.

The banquet took place in the Royal City Ballroom at the Delta Conference Center in Guelph on Wednesday evening, September 24<sup>th</sup>. There were plenty of dances and music given by the local group. During the banquet the awardees of PPS-2025 were given their awards by members of our Executive Committee.



Prof. Altstaedt (President of PPS, on the video) and Prof. Mohanty (Chair, 1<sup>st</sup> from left) and Prof. Misra (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) together with the organizing committee at the Open Ceremony.



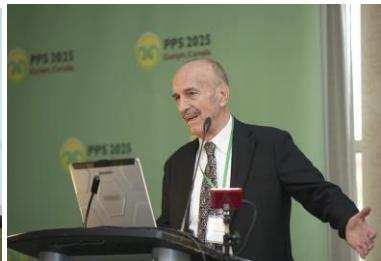
Delegates attend a scientific session of PPS-2025 Regional Conference at Guelph.



Banquet dance of PPS-2025 under the local music and dance group.



Prof. Andy Hrymak (Editor-in-Chief for IPP for 12 years, 2004-2016) gives a speech.



Prof. John Vlachopoulos (PPS Membership) delivers his talk at PPS-2025 Regional Conference at Guelph.



Past presidents (Saha - left, Altan - middle, Jana - right) together with Prof. Kenig (middle) and Prof. Mitsoulis (Secretary – right) give a standing ovation to Prof. Carreau on the video.



PPS poster session at PPS-2025.



Past-President Jana (middle) and Chair of PPS-2025 Prof. Mohanty (right) give the PPS Graduate Poster Winner Award to Hossein Ipakchi.



Prof. Macosko (middle) takes a legacy award from Prof. Mohanty (left) and Prof. Park during the banquet at PPS-2025 in Guelph.



PPS attendees take a picture in front of the Delta Conference Center for PPS-2025 in Guelph.

## The PPS-41 International Conference, May 31-June 4, 2026, is going well in preparation for Paestum, Salerno, Italy

The PPS-41 International Conference will be held in Paestum, Salerno, Italy, on May 31-June 4, 2026. The Conference is organized by Prof. Roberto Pantani and his team of the University of Salerno. The website of the Conference is: <https://www.pps-41.org/>. The email is: [info@PPS-41.org](mailto:info@PPS-41.org). The Conference will take place in the Hotel Ariston Paestum (website <https://hotelaristonpaestum.com/>), in historic Paestum, near Salerno, in Campania, Italy.

Abstract submission closes on November 15, 2025. Notification of acceptance is January 31, 2026. Early-bird registration deadline is on March 1, 2026. Full member registration is €670. Standard registration (until May 30<sup>th</sup> 2026) is €800. The corresponding fees for students are €260 and €315. Accompanying Person Registration is €280. One-day registration is €350. All full registration (member and non-member) packages include: full conference access, conference catering, welcome reception, and conference dinner.

There will be 20 general symposia. These are: Additive Manufacturing of Polymers, Aeronautical and Aerospace Applications, Biomedical Applications, Composites, Blends and Alloys, Extrusion, Mixing and Compounding, Fibers and Films, Foams and Membranes, Injection Molding, Micromolding and Molds, Machine Learning in Polymer Processing, Modeling and Simulation, Morphology and Structural Development, Nanotechnology and Nanocomposites, Rheology and Characterization, Rubber, Elastomers and Thermosets, Smart Polymers and Special Applications, Solid-State Processing and Properties, Soft Robotics, Surfaces and Interfaces, Sustainability (Recycling, LCA, Environmental Impact, Biodegradable Polymers), Special Session: Advances in Polymer Processing and Digital Manufacturing for Prosthetic Devices.

Paestum (ancient Greek Poseidonia) was established around 600 BCE, by settlers from Sybaris, a Greek colony in southern Italy. The city thrived as a Greek settlement for about two centuries, witnessing the development of democracy. In 400 BCE, the Lucanians seized the city. Romans took over in 273 BCE, renaming it Paestum and establishing a Latin colony. Later, its decline ensued from shifts in trade routes and the onset of flooding and marsh formation. As **Pesto** or Paestum, the town became a bishopric (now only titular), but it was abandoned in the Early Middle Ages, and left undisturbed and largely forgotten until the eighteenth century.

Today the remains of the city are found in the modern Paestum, which is part of the commune of Capaccio Paestum in the Province of Salerno in the region of Campania, Italy. The modern settlement, directly to the south of the archaeological site, is a popular seaside resort with long sandy beaches. The Paestum railway station on the Naples-Salerno-Reggio Calabria railway line is directly to the east of the ancient city walls.



Italy with Paestum (3 red dots)  
where it will take place the PPS-41 International Conference.

Paestum ancient Greek temples.

A view of the Hotel Ariston Paestum where PPS-41 will take place.

## **The PPS-2026 Asia/Australasia Regional Conference, December 2-4, 2026, to be held in Hanoi, Vietnam**

The PPS-2026 Asia/Australasia Regional Conference will be held in Hanoi, Vietnam, on December 2-4 (Wed to Fri), 2026. The Conference is organized by Profs. Nang Xuan Ho and Thanh Huy Pham and their team from the Phenikaa University of Hanoi (website: <http://pps2026.phenikaa-uni.edu.vn>).

Submission of abstracts starts January 1, 2026 and full manuscripts submission deadline is June 16, 2026.

There are 10 general symposia. These are: Polymer Alloy-Blend-Composites, Polymer Nanotechnology, Injection & Extrusion Moldings, Fibers & Films & Textiles, Polyme Synthesis & Modification, Advanced Polymer Characterizations, Rheology & Rheometry, Structure & Properties & Simulation, Recycle & Environment & Energy, Special Workshop.

The venue and location of the Conference is not far from the United Park, Song Hong river, and also Hoan Kiem lake, where you can experience the most scenic spot in the capital city with traditional music and Vietnamese food.



Vietnam, the country where PPS-2026 Asia/Australasia Regional Conference will take place.

Hanoi, seen from the West Lake (Ho Tay), the largest lake in Hanoi, a favorite for locals and tourists alike.

Hoan Kiem Lake (or Lake of the Returned Sword) lies in the heart of Hanoi, the capital of Vietnam.

### **Upcoming Conferences of Interest to PPS Members**

#### **ANTEC 2026**

Pittsburgh, PA, USA  
March 9-12, 2026

<https://www.4spe.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageID=9535#gsc.tab=0>

#### **AERC 2026**

Annual European Rheology Conference  
Krakow, Poland  
April 14-17, 2026

<https://rheology-esr.org/aerc-2026/welcome/>

#### **SOR 2026**

97<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society of Rheology  
Boston, Massachusetts, USA  
October 25-29, 2026

<https://societyofrheology.org/meetings>

## 2026 AIChE Annual Meeting

Minneapolis, MN, USA

November 8-12, 2026

<https://www.aiche.org/conferences/aiche-annual-meeting/2026>

## Andreas Acrivos (June 13, 1928 – February 17, 2025)



**Andreas “Andy” Acrivos**, professor emeritus of engineering at Stanford University and an internationally respected educator and researcher who helped transform the field of chemical engineering, especially in the areas of applied mathematics, heat transfer, and fluid mechanics, died Feb. 17, 2025. He was 96 years old.

Born in Athens, Greece, Acrivos moved to the United States to pursue an engineering education. He received a bachelor's degree from Syracuse University in 1950; a master's degree from the University of Minnesota in 1951; and a Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota in 1954, all in chemical engineering.

Acrivos is considered to be one of the leading fluid dynamicists of the 20th century. In 1954, Acrivos joined the faculty at the University of California, Berkeley. In 1962, he moved to Stanford University, where he worked with Professor David Mason to build chemical engineering programs. In 1977, he was elected as a member into the National Academy of Engineering for contributions in the application of mathematical analysis to the understanding of fundamental phenomena in chemical engineering processes. In 1987, Acrivos joined as the Albert Einstein Professor of Science and Engineering at The City College of the City University of New York, succeeding Veniamin Levich.

From 1982 to 1997, Acrivos served as the editor-in-chief of *Physics of Fluids*.

A recipient of the National Medal of Science and a member of the National Academy of Engineering, Acrivos was instrumental in establishing modern-day fluid mechanics principles in chemical engineering.

Acrivos died in Stanford, California, on 17 February 2025, at the age of 96.

## David Vernon Boger (November 13, 1939 – July 5, 2025)



**David Vernon Boger**, Vale Emeritus Professor of engineering at Monash University and an internationally respected educator and researcher who helped transform the field of chemical engineering, in particular in fluid mechanics, died July 5, 2025. He was 85 years old.

Born in Kutztown, Pennsylvania, USA, Boger graduated from Bucknell University with a B.S., and from the University of Illinois with an M.S. and Ph.D. He then moved to Australia, where he taught at Monash University, the University of Melbourne, and the University of Florida. He was one of three inaugural Laureate Professors at the University of Melbourne.

Boger is known for his studies of non-Newtonian fluids (which behave both as liquids and solids) which have improved the understanding of how this group of fluids flow and led to major financial and environmental benefits. Boger discovered 'perfect' non-Newtonian fluids, which are elastic and have constant viscosity and are now known as Boger fluids, which enabled him to explain how non-Newtonian fluids behave. He was able to apply his ideas to improve the disposal of "red mud", a toxic waste produced during the manufacture of aluminium from bauxite and a major environmental problem. His findings also led to improved inks for industrial inkjet printers, insecticide chemicals that spread evenly on leaves and reduced drag in oil pipelines.

Boger was elected to the Fellowship of the Australian Academy of Science in 1993 and served on the Council of the Australian Academy of Science from 1999 to 2002. He was awarded the Matthew Flinders Medal and Lecture in 2000. In 2007 he was elected Fellow of the Royal Society and of the Royal Society of Victoria. In 2017, Boger was elected a member of the National Academy of Engineering for discoveries and fundamental research on elastic and particulate fluids and their application to waste minimization in the minerals industry.

## **Next Newsletter – May 2026**

If you have comments on how to improve this newsletter or want to share some information in the next one, please contact the Newsletter Editor Prof. Evan Mitsoulis at [mitsouli@metal.ntua.gr](mailto:mitsouli@metal.ntua.gr). The next issue of the Newsletter is due in May 2026.