



# ***PPS Newsletter***

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*December 2023 Information to Polymer Processing Society Members*

## **The PPS-2023 Asia-Australasia Regional Conference, November 29-December 2, 2023, a great success in Kerala, India**

The PPS-2023 Asia-Australasia Regional Conference was held in Kovalam, Kerala, India, on November 29-December 2, 2023 (website <https://pps2023india.com/>). The Conference was organized by Polymer Processing Academy, Mumbai, along with Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre & Indian Institute of Space Science Technology, Trivandrum, with Prof. Anup K. Ghosh of the Indian Institute of Technology in Delhi as the Conference Chair.

There were organized Symposia (12 general + 5 special), 6 Plenary, 6 Special Industry Plenary and 60 Keynote lectures. There were 137 orals and 150 posters, coming from 21 countries. India (238) had the biggest list, while in total 287 papers were presented.

The plenary speakers were: Prof. Takeshi Kikutani of Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan, Prof. Christian Hopmann of RWTH Aachen University, Aachen, Germany, Dr. R. Mukhopadhyay of J K Tyre & Industries Ltd., India, Dr. Sanjay Behari of Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum, India, Mr. Janardhanan Ramanujalu of SABIC South Asia & ANZ, Prof. Paula Moldenaers, KU Leuven, Belgium, and Prof. Tony McNally, University of Warwick, Coventry, UK.

The banquet took place at the Kerala Art and Craft Village, in Kovalam, Kerala, with plenty of excellent food and desserts. The quality of food served at breakfast, lunch, and dinner/receptions was exceptional. Professor Anup Ghosh and his team did a wonderful job in local hospitality and in exciting young scientists and engineers.



Prof. Anup K. Ghosh, Conference Chair, addressing the gathering in the Opening Ceremony.



Prof. Sadhan Jana, PPS President, addressing the gathering in the Opening Ceremony.



Indian traditional lamp-lighting in the Opening Ceremony by President of PPS.



Dr. Unnikrishnan Nair, Director, VSSC/IIST, addressing the gathering in the Opening Ceremony.



Release of PPS-2023 "Book of Abstracts" by the dignitaries.



A view of gathering in PPS-2023.



Prof. Sadhan Jana, President of PPS, honoring Chief Guest, Dr. U. Nair.



Award of a Poster Paper in the Conference banquet.



Prof. Sadhan Jana addressing the Concluding Session; Dr. Bhojgowd, Prof. Petr Saha, Prof. Ashok Misra, and Prof. Takeshi Kikutani on the podium.

## The PPS-39 International Conference, May 19-23, 2024, to be held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia

The PPS-39 International Conference will be held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on May 19-23, 2024. The Conference is organized by Prof. Medina and his team at the Universidad de los Andes (website <http://pps39.uniandes.edu.co>). The venue is going to be the Hilton Hotel.

Early Bird deadline: March 15, 2024. Regular PPS members: \$2.450.000 COP. Student members: \$1.000.000 COP.

Regular registration deadline: April 19, 2024. Regular PPS members: \$2.880.000 COP. Student members: \$1.185.000 COP.

There are 18 general symposia and 4 special symposia. There will be 8 plenaries in which the corresponding Morand Lambla and James L. White Innovation Awards are included. The Conference will also include 4 Industrial Keynote lectures. There will be 63 Academic Keynote lectures and 333 parallel talks. At the end of the day (Monday and Tuesday) a Poster Session will take place with approximately 100 different posters each day.

Plenary speakers: Profs. Ica Manas-Zloczower, Tim Osswald, Alejandro Müller, Cyrille Boyer, Marcello Calderón.

Distinguished Keynote Speakers: Martin Spörk (Additive Manufacturing – 3D Printing), Chris Rauwendaal (Extrusion), Lih-Sheng Turng (Injection Molding), Jean-François Gérard (Polymerization and Synthesis), Shmuel Kenig (Polymer Blends and Alloys), Thomas Neumeyer (Polymer Foams and Membranes), Takeshi Kikutani (Fibers and Films), Amine Ammar (Machine Learning in Polymer Processing), Amar Mohanty (Biopolymers, Biocomposites, and Bioprocessing).

The Conference will take place at Cartagena de Indias, a city of about 1,000,000 inhabitants and one of the major ports on the northern coast of Colombia in the Caribbean Coast Region, bordering the Caribbean sea. The city was founded on June 1, 1533 by the Spaniards. During the Spanish colonial period Cartagena had a key role in administration and expansion of the Spanish empire. It was a center of political, ecclesiastical, and economic activity. In 1984, Cartagena's colonial walled city and fortress were designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



Cartagena, Colombia, the place for PPS-39 International Conference.



Cartagena's walled city and fortress were designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



A view of one of the many catholic churches in Cartagena.

## **The PPS-2024 Europe-Africa Regional Conference, September 30-October 3, 2024, to be held in Ferrol, Spain**

The PPS-2024 Europe-Africa Regional Conference will be held in Ferrol, Spain, on September 30-October 3, 2024. The Conference is organized by Prof. Ares Pernas and her team from Universidade da Coruña at the Campus Industrial de Ferrol (website: <http://pps2024ferrol.com>).

The deadline for submission of abstracts is May 13, 2024. The registration fees are 550 euros for PPS members.

The Conference will take place at Ferrol, a city of 65,000 people (in 2021), in the Province of A Coruña, in Galicia, on the Atlantic coast in north-western Spain. Its harbor, for depth, capacity and safety, has few equals in Europe. The entrance is very narrow, commanded by forts, and may even be shut by a boom. The city has been a major naval shipbuilding center for most of its history, being the capital of the Spanish Navy's Maritime Department of the North since the time of the early Bourbons. Before that, in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, Ferrol had the largest arsenal in Europe. Today, the city contains some of the major shipbuilding yards of the Navantia Group.



Ferrol, in north-western Spain, the place for PPS-2024 Europe-Africa Regional Conference.



Ferrol is a large maritime city in the Province of A Coruña, in Galicia, in north-western Spain.



Ferrol Port.



## The PPS-40 International Conference, April 28-May 1, 2025, to be held in Auckland, New Zealand

The PPS-40 International Conference will be held in Auckland, New Zealand, on April 28-May 1, 2025. The Conference is organized by Prof. Verbeek and his team at the University of Auckland.

The Conference will take place at Auckland, a large metropolitan city in the North Island of New Zealand. The most populous urban area in the country and the fifth largest city in Oceania, Auckland has an urban population of about 1,440,300 (June 2022). While Europeans continue to make up the plurality of Auckland's population, the city became multicultural and cosmopolitan in the late-20th century, with Asians accounting for 31% of the city's population in 2018. With its large population of Pasifica New Zealanders, the city is also home to the biggest ethnic Polynesian population in the world. The Maori-language name for Auckland is *Tāmaki Makaurau*, meaning "Tāmaki desired by many", in reference to the desirability of its natural resources and geography.



Auckland, New Zealand, the place for PPS-40 International Conference.

Auckland is a large metropolitan city in the North Island of New Zealand.

A view of the University of Auckland in New Zealand.

## Upcoming Conferences of Interest to PPS Members

### ANTEC 2024

St. Louis, MO, USA

March 4-7, 2024

[https://www.4spe.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageID=8330&utm\\_id=ANTE\\_2024\\_Social\\_Share](https://www.4spe.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageID=8330&utm_id=ANTE_2024_Social_Share)

### AIChE

2024 AIChE Spring Meeting and 20<sup>th</sup> Global Congress on Process Safety

New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center

New Orleans, LA, USA

March 24-28, 2024

<https://www.aiche.org/conferences/aiche-spring-meeting-and-global-congress-on-process-safety/2024>

### AERC 2024

Annual European Rheology Conference 2024

Leeds, UK

April 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

<https://rheology-esr.org/aerc-2024/welcome/>

### **3<sup>rd</sup> World Conference on Mechanical Engineering**

Vienna, Austria

21-22 June 2024

[3rd-world-conference-on-mechanical-engineering.htm](https://www.3rd-world-conference-on-mechanical-engineering.htm)

### **Bruce Caswell (1936 - September 24, 2021)**

*Emeritus Professor of Engineering Bruce Caswell, 85, passed away on September 24, 2021.*



Bruce was born in Recife, Brazil, to English parents, and raised in Niteroi / Rio de Janeiro. He spent his high school years in Victoria, British Columbia, and graduated from the University of British Columbia with a degree in engineering. He received his Ph.D. in 1962 from Stanford University and joined the faculty at the University of California, Davis, as an assistant professor.

In 1966, he moved to Providence and joined the School of Engineering at Brown University, where he would spend the rest of his academic career. Professor Caswell's main area of research was the numerical simulation of flow processes. While he retired in 2002, Caswell was still active in research and held an appointment as a Professor of Engineering (Research) until his death. Upon his retirement about 20 years ago, Bruce worked closely with the CRUNCH research group in the Division of Applied Mathematics, where he supervised over a dozen postdocs, Ph.D. students, and visitors. He co-authored over 30 papers published in rheology and biomedical journals as well as in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Bruce was instrumental in developing, together with Prof. Karniadakis, a new area in complex fluids for mesoscale modeling of complex fluids including healthy and diseased blood such as malaria, sickle cell anemia, and diabetes. This work later was funded by the Department of Energy Collaboratory on Mathematics for Mesoscopic Modeling of Materials (CM4).

Bruce traveled extensively for his work and pleasure. He was fluent in Portuguese and spent a year as a visiting professor at Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He also spent a year each at University of Grenoble, France, and the University of Sydney, Australia. In more recent times he and his wife Robin enjoyed exploring the national parks in the West. Their Maine cottage afforded him much pleasure for his love of nature. There was always a carpentry project in process in his workshop in the barn. He enjoyed dancing, sailing, and a daily swim. Bruce was a kind and caring person with a great sense of humor and unfailing integrity. He is survived by his wife Robin, his two daughters Alexandra and Eloise, and five grandchildren.

### **Lionel Choplin (1948 - November 24, 2021)**

*Prof. Lionel Choplin, Professor Emeritus at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Industries Chimiques (ENSIC- Université de Lorraine) and researcher at the Reactions and Process Engineering Laboratory (LRGP), died on November 24 at the age of 73.*



Lionel Choplin was a Professor at ENSIC since 1991 and held the first industrial chair created in France, in the field of Complex Environment Engineering (GEMICO). The GEMICO chair was created in 1991 then attached to the LRGP in 2010. Lionel Choplin then created in 2007 and directed the ANR industrial chairs program. He was the author of more than 240 articles in peer-reviewed journals and had supervised nearly 45 theses. He was also very strongly committed to ENSIC where he was notably in charge of International Relations. Recognized nationally

and internationally in the field of the rheology of complex environments, he was an experienced researcher who had developed numerous academic and industrial collaborations. He notably developed a systematic rheology which is based on an integration of knowledge from rheology and process engineering. It does not claim to replace traditional rheology, but it sheds new light on it and proves to be an effective support tool in process engineering.

Lionel Choplin, INSA Engineer from Toulouse in 1971, obtained a Master of Sciences, Dept. Chemical Engineering, Ecole Polytechnique de Montréal in 1976, then defended his PhD at Ecole Polytechnique de Montréal under the direction of Pierre Carreau, in August 1980.

Lionel Choplin had always been passionate about teaching, starting as an Associate Professor at the Industrial University of Santander in Bucaramanga (Colombia) from 1971 to 1974, then lecturer at the Ecole Polytechnique de Montréal (Canada) from 1976 to 1979. He then obtained a position as Associate Professor, at the Department of Chemical Engineering at Laval University, Quebec, from 1979 to 1984, then a position as Professor in the same department from 1984 to 1991. During this period, he was also Director of the Department of Chemical Engineering at Laval University, Quebec, from 1986 to 1988.

In 1991, he became holder of the industrial chair (GEMICO) Engineering of Complex Environments, and Professor at ENSIC. In 2012, he won the Maurice Couette Grand Prize from the French Rheology Group. He had been Professor Emeritus since 2017.

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## **Next Newsletter – May 2024**

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 2024.