



# **PPS Newsletter**

[www.tpps.org](http://www.tpps.org)

November 2024 *Information to Polymer Processing Society Members*

## **The PPS-2024 Europe-Africa Regional Conference, September 30-October 3, 2024, held in Ferrol, A Coruña, Spain, a splendid meeting despite rain**

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

There were 220 participants from 27 countries (51 students). There were 13 Symposia, 5 Plenary, 2 Industrial, 7 Distinguished and 13 Keynote lectures. There were 143 orals and 37 posters. Europe had the biggest list with Spain (49) and Germany (47) having the highest number of attendees. There were 82 new PPS members.

There were 13 general symposia. These were: Polymer Composites, Biopolymers, Sustainable Materials and Processing, Polymer Blends and Alloys, Morphology and Structure Development, Polymers and Environment, Polymer Films, Fibers, Membranes & Coatings, Rheology, Additive Manufacturing, Modeling and Simulation, Injection Molding, Molding and Molds, Extrusion, Mixing and Compounding, Foams and Other Porous Materials.

The scientific speakers were: Dr. Celina Bernar, Instituto de Tecnología en Polímeros y Nanotecnología ITPN, UBA, CONISET, Spain; Prof. Suryasarathi Bose, Indian Institute of Science, India; Dr. Mariano Campoy-Quiles, The Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), Spain; Victor Casal López, Navantia, Spain; Prof. Walter Focke, University of Pretoria, South Africa; Dr. Álvaro Goyanes, Universidad de Santiago, Spain; Dr. Zulima Martín Moreno, AIRBUS, Spain.

The first get-together happened at the Maritime Museum in the evening of Monday, September 30, 2024, where under the magnificent municipal band Rondalla Añoranzas the attendees also tried the superb Galician cuisine. On the next day, the attendees had another dose of Galician food under the fine tuning of the local band Santaia, which played music and danced.

The banquet took place at the superb Illas Gabeiras Restaurant in Ferrol. During the banquet were given in abundance barnacles sea shells (in Galician called “percebes”) that are to be found on the Atlantic Coast line. There was plenty of dances and music given by the local group Encrucillada playing Música Galega. During the banquet the awardees of PPS-2024 were given their awards by our President Prof. Sadhan Jana.

One superb excursion happened on Thursday afternoon October 3, 2024, when many delegates went on a guided tour of the Santiago de Compostela, capital city of Galicia. The city is about 90 km from Ferrol. It has its origin in the shrine of Saint James the Great, now the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, as the destination of the Way of St. James, a leading Catholic pilgrimage route since the 9th century. In 1985, the city's Old Town was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Santiago de Compostela has a very mild climate for its latitude with heavy winter rainfall courtesy of its relative proximity to the prevailing winds from Atlantic low-pressure systems. Santiago is the site of the University of Santiago de Compostela, established in the early 16th century. The main campus can be seen best from an alcove in the large

municipal park in the center of the city. Within the old town there are many narrow winding streets full of historic buildings.



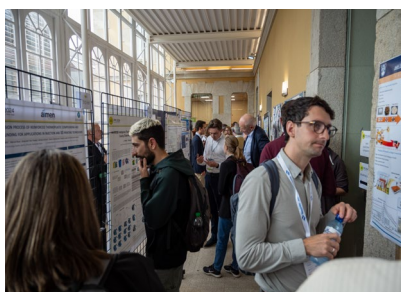
Prof. Jana (President of PPS, 2<sup>nd</sup> from left) and Prof. Ares (Chair, 4<sup>th</sup> from left) together with the local band Rondalla Añoranzas at the Maritime Museum.



Delegates attend the opening ceremony of PPS-2024 Regional Conference at Ferrol.



First luncheon of PPS-2024 under the local music and dance group of Santaia.



PPS poster session at PPS-2024.



President Jana (right) and Chair of PPS-2024 Prof. Ares give the PPS Best Poster Award to Khaledi Behnam at the banquet.



PPS attendees take a picture at the closing ceremony for PPS-2024 in Ferrol.

## **The PPS-40 International Conference, April 22-25, 2025, is going well in preparation for Auckland, New Zealand**

The PPS-40 International Conference will be held in Auckland, New Zealand, on April 22-25, 2025. The Conference is organized by Prof. Johan Verbeek and his team at the University of Auckland. The website of the Conference is: <https://www.pps-40.org/>. The email is: [PPS40@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:PPS40@auckland.ac.nz).

Registration started on October 1, 2024 and it ends on February 10, 2025. Full member registration is \$1300 NZD. Standard registration (from February 11, 2025) is \$1500 NZD. The corresponding fees for students are \$600 NZD and \$700 NZD. Abstract submission closed on November 10, 2024. Presenter Registration is due on February 24, 2025. All full registration (member and non-member) packages include: full conference access, conference catering, welcome reception, and conference dinner.

There will be 18 general symposia. These are: Circular Economy for Plastics, Polymer Recycling, Biopolymers, Additive Manufacturing, Polymer Composites, Injection Molding, Rubber and Elastomers, Fibers and Films, Industry 4.0 and AI, Foams and Membranes, Mixing and Compounding, Morphology and Structural Development, Polymer Blends and Alloys, Nanotechnology, Polymerization and Synthesis, Modeling and Simulation, Functional Additives and Reactive Processing, Biomedical Applications.

The scientific speakers are: Dr. Andrew Somervell, Fisher & Paykel Healthcare, New Zealand; Dr. Ines Kühnert, Leibniz-Institute of Polymer Research Dresden, Germany; Prof. Kim Ragaert, Dept. Circular Chem. Eng., Maastrich University, The Netherlands; Dr. Kim Thompson, Rocket

Lab, Auckland, New Zealand; Prof. Peter Halley, Dept. Chem. Eng., Univ. of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia; Prof. Anil K. Bhowmick, Dept. Chem. & Biochem. Eng., University of Houston, Texas, USA.

The Conference will take place in 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.

There is a visa requirement for some countries. Please check.



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.

## **The PPS-2025 Americas Regional Conference, September 23-25, 2025, to be held in Guelph, Ontario, Canada**

The PPS-2025 Americas Regional Conference will be held in Guelph, Ontario, Canada, on September 23-25 (Tue to Thu), 2025. The Conference is organized by Profs. Amar K. Mohanty and Manjusri Misra and their team from the University of Guelph (website: <http://pps2025.ca>).

Submission of abstracts starts January 30, 2025 and submission closure is March 30, 2025. The early-bird registration is May 15, 2025, and regular registration deadline is June 30, 2025. Online registration deadline is September 1, 2025. There is going to be an onsite registration only after this date.

There are 13 general symposia. These are: Injection Molding, Molding and Molds, Extrusion, Mixing and Compounding, Additive Manufacturing, Modeling and Simulation, Polymer Composites, Polymer Blends and Alloys, Polymers and Environment, Biopolymers, Polymer Fibers, Films and Coatings, Morphology and Structure Development, Rheology, Sustainable Materials and Processing, Foams and Other Porous Materials.

The Conference will take place in Guelph, a city of 144,000 people, in the Province of Ontario, in Canada. Guelph began as a settlement in the 1820s, established by John Galt, who was in Upper Canada as the first superintendent of the Canada Company. He based the headquarters, and his home, in the community. Galt is generally considered Guelph's founder.

The name *Guelph* comes, via the Italian *Guelfo*, from the Bavarian *Welf*. It is a reference to the House of Welf, and was chosen to honor King George IV—the reigning British monarch at the time of the city's founding—whose family, the Hanoverians, descended from the Welfs.



Despite John Galt's grandiose plans, Guelph did not grow beyond village size until the Grand Trunk Railroad reached it from Toronto in 1856. After this time, many of Guelph's prominent buildings were erected, a number of which were designed by high profile Toronto-based architects, but most of which were the product of a talented group of local architects, builders and stone carvers who effectively used Guelph's locally quarried, warm-hued limestone which today gives a visual unity to the older parts of the City.

For many years, Guelph had one of the country's lowest unemployment rates throughout the Great Recession. In late 2018, the Guelph Eramosa and Puslinch entity had an unemployment rate of 2.3%, which decreased to 1.9% by January 2019, the lowest of all Canadian cities. (The national rate at the time was 5.8%.) Much of this was attributed to its numerous manufacturing facilities.



Guelph, near Toronto in Ontario, Canada, the place for PPS-2025 Americas Regional Conference.



Guelph is a medium city in the Province of Ontario, near Lake Ontario in Canada.



Downtown Guelph.

## Upcoming Conferences of Interest to PPS Members

### **ANTEC 2025**

Philadelphia, PA, USA

March 3-6, 2025

[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)

### **HSR 2025**

11<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Society of Rheology Conference

Syros, Cyclades, Greece

June 11-14, 2025

<https://mathweb.aegean.gr/hsr2025/>

### **SOR 2025**

96<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society of Rheology

Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA

October 19-23, 2025

[https://www.rheology.org/sor/Annual\\_Meeting/Default.aspx](https://www.rheology.org/sor/Annual_Meeting/Default.aspx)

### **2025 AIChE Annual Meeting**

Back Bay, Boston, MA, USA

November 2-6, 2025

<https://www.aiche.org/conferences/aiche-annual-meeting/2025>

## **Next Newsletter – May 2025**

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 2025.