



Newsletter 57, September 2014

## International Association of Colloid and Interface Scientists

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### From your Newsletter Editor

This Newsletter largely contains important announcements from your association itself.

We hope you enjoy reading this contribution.

### Abstract submission IACIS2015 opened.



Rheingoldhalle, Mainz

Starting 15 August, abstract submission for the forthcoming [IACIS2015](#) conference in Mainz has opened. As you may expect from the organizers, detailed [instructions](#) are given.

Important to know is the deadline: the first week of the next year: 8 January 2015.

For more information, please contact [Hans-Jürgen Butt](#).

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### Call for Nominations IACIS Lifetime Achievement Award 2015

In 2010 IACIS introduced a new award, the *IACIS Lifetime Achievement Award*. This prestigious award is intended to reflect the awardee's outstanding, lifetime contribution to colloid and interface science research, and also his/her contributions to IACIS. The first award was made in Japan in 2012 to Professor Tom Healy of Melbourne University. This new award replaced the previous *IACIS Lectureship Award*, which was a special invitation to give a plenary lecture (with this title) at the next IACIS meeting. The four recipients of that award were, in sequence: Hans Lyklema, Egon Matijevic, Bob Hunter and Brian Vincent. It would not seem appropriate to nominate any of them for the new award, as the criteria for the two awards are very similar.

We are seeking nominations for the award to be made in May 2015 at the next IACIS conference in Mainz, Germany. The rules of the award are set out [here](#). Please read these carefully, in particular the rules about nomination procedure. Note that the last line of the rules states that "unsuccessful nominees shall have their nomination carried forward for two subsequent conferences". The eligible nominations last time, in addition to Tom Healy, were: Jacob Israelachvili, Bjorn Lindman, Ponisseril Somasundaran and Tharwat Tadros. In fact "Som" gracefully withdrew as he is a member of the selection committee, having chaired the 2009 conference in New York! However, the other 3 previous nominations will be carried forward automatically, and will not require re-nomination. If you wish to make a nomination, please send the name of your nominee, together with the suggested paperwork, as stated in the "rules", to myself, as chairman of the selection committee, as soon as possible. Seconders are not a requirement, but if you wish to add the names of other persons supporting a particular nomination that is fine.

[Brian Vincent](#), Chair of the Award Committee.

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### Brothers and Sisters



The [ACS division of Colloid and Interface Science](#) has awarded

Daniel J. Beltran Villegas the 2014 LaMer Award.

He received his Ph.D. in 2012 in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at Johns Hopkins University with Michael A. Bevan and is currently a postdoctoral fellow in Chemical Engineering at University of Michigan with Ronald Larson. His research interests revolve around techniques for measuring of colloidal particle conservative and dissipative forces and modeling of dynamic assembly processes. In 2012 he received the 2nd place in the Langmuir Student Award competition held during the 86th Colloids and Surface Science Symposium. His Ph.D. research accomplishments include 14 publications in Langmuir, Journal of Chemical Physics and Soft Matter.

For more information, please consult the [division website](#).

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### little Hill and BIG Hill

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January, Terell Leslie Hill, a very productive scientist and a prolific writer, passed away at the age of 96 in Eugene, Oregon (USA). Many of us have been trained and used his *An Introduction to Statistical Thermodynamics*, often termed "little Hill", and looked up the finer detail in *Statistical Mechanics: Principles and Selected Applications*. The younger generation will favor the *Statistical Mechanics* book by Donald A. McQuarrie, his student, which carries largely the same spirit. The most interesting aspect of this and other work of Terell Hill is that most of his scientific papers were subsequently published as text books, sometimes not much later than the originals appeared in print. It is particularly in this way that his work is much better known than that of contemporaries.



Terell L. Hill (1917-2014)

#### Nanothermodynamics

In 2001, Hill coined the term *nanothermodynamics* as a more fashionable version of the phrase that he used for his work on the *Thermodynamics of Small Systems*. Indeed, this touches our field, the thermodynamics and statistical mechanics of systems of colloidal particles, polymers, or macromolecules. Specifically, Hill stated: "This subject, which now might appropriately be called nanothermodynamics, was investigated at some length by the author in 1961-3." (Nanoletters 1 (2001) 111-112).

Other books by Hill, all extremely relevant to our field, are on *Free energy transduction*, on *Cooperativity Theory* and on *Linear Aggregation Theory*. Importantly, all are affordably available through [Dover Publications](#). Without doubt, these little books make Hill's contribution to modern science BIG!

[Ger Koper](#), NL editor.

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### International Workshop on Polyelectrolytes in Chemistry, Biology and Technology

**Communicated by [Björn Lindman](#), Lund University:**

The [workshop](#) to be organized in Singapore from 26 to 28 January 2015 will cover both fundamental and applied aspects of simple and complex polyelectrolyte systems. The workshop will have a clear interdisciplinary character including chemical, biological and technological aspects. The workshop covers fundamental and applied aspects of polyelectrolyte systems as defined in a broad sense including all highly charged synthetic and biological polymers and aggregates formed from surfactants in aqueous medium also including polyelectrolyte-polymer interactions and self-assembly. The main themes are: Theory and Simulations of Polyelectrolyte Systems, Polyelectrolytes in Biological Systems and Technological/Industrial Applications of Polyelectrolyte Systems.

The workshop will present a great opportunity and platform for scientists to discuss broadly current developments in the polyelectrolyte field. In addition, it offers an excellent opportunity to celebrate the 60 year anniversary of one the pioneering publications on polyelectrolyte theory by Rudolph A Marcus (Nobel Prize in chemistry 1992), the 1955 paper "Calculation of Thermodynamic Properties of Polyelectrolytes". Professor Marcus has kindly accepted to present a talk at the workshop and some other Nobel Prize winners are invited as well.

The workshop will include invited and contributed talks as well as posters.

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### Vacancies

**Communicated by [Tatiana Gambaryan-Roisman](#), University of Darmstadt:**

*One PhD and one post doctorate position* are available withing the EU Marie Curie project CoWet. For more details on the program follow the above link.

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For comments or suggestions, please contact the [Newsletter Editor](#).