



International Association of Colloid and Interface Scientists

In this newsletter you will find the following topics:

[Presidential Address.](#)
[Honorary Life Membership for Dimo Platikanov.](#)
[Brothers and Sisters.](#)
[Selected announcements.](#)
[Dan Eley: a life in Colloid and Surface Science.](#)

Presidential Address

15th IACIS Conference 2015 in Mainz, Germany

Last year we had the [15th IACIS conference](#) organized by our colleagues from the Max Planck Institute of Polymer Research in Mainz. This conference was a joint meeting with the German Colloid Society. Almost 700 delegates took part in the meeting, which run very well due to the excellent organization as well as the very nice Convention Centre Rheingoldhalle suitable for such large scientific meetings. The [16th IACIS Conference 2018](#) will be organized in Delft, the Netherlands and also the 17th IACIS conference in 2021 is already decided to be given to Brisbane, Australia. Let us all look forward to these meetings which surely will continue the series of excellent meetings of our scientific community.

IACIS Honorary Life Membership Award

In 2015 the Honorary Life Membership award was given to Dimo Platikanov, a long time member of the IACIS Council, and IACIS president from 2000 to 2003. This award was given for the second time (first awardee was Hans Lyklema in 2009) to Dimo as a member of our association who continuously contributes to all activities and keeps an eye on all procedures within IACIS. The Council congratulates him for this award handed over in October 2015 in Sofia.

IACIS Lifetime Achievement Award

We have this award since 2012 and Tom Healy was the first recipient of the IACIS Lifetime Achievement Award, who gave his lecture in Sendai in 2012. This award replaced the earlier IACIS Lectureship Award, which had been given to Hans Lyklema (2000), Egon Matijevic (2003), Bob Hunter (2006) and Brian Vincent (2009). This year Björn Lindman was awarded by this prize and he gave his lecture at the IACIS conference in May 2015 in Mainz.

The Lifetime Achievement Award 2015 to Björn Lindman was handed over by our now Immediate Past President Kazue Kurihara, who we thank for her excellent service during the last three years. After Brian Vincent stepped back as chair of the selection committee, Björn was elected as new chair. More information about this award can be found at [our website](#).

Please allow me to use the opportunity and thank all Council members and the Steering Committee for their valuable inputs. Most of all my thanks go to our Honorary Secretary and Treasurer Mieke Kleijn as well as our Newsletters Editor and Webmaster Ger Koper as without their careful work IACIS could not function as well as it does.

Reinhard Miller,
 President of IACIS 2015-2018

[Back to the top](#)

Honorary Life Membership for Dimo Platikanov



Dimo Platikanov.

On behalf of the Standing Committee of IACIS, Dimo Platikanov was awarded the IACIS Honorary Life Membership. The prize was given to him for his long-standing and meritorious contributions to the Association. Dimo has been continuously on the IACIS Council since 1996 in different capacities until the present day. In 1997 he was one of the main organizers of the IACIS conference in Sofia. Dimo was also president of IACIS from 2000-2003. Dimo was and still is a helpful and important advisor for the Standing Committee of IACIS. As a co-opted member of the IACIS Council he always keeps a close eye on all activities of our association. He visits every IACIS conference and Council meeting. In addition, Dimo is an eminent scientist. His work on thin films and surfactants at interfaces has shaped the field.

The Honorary Life Membership has only been awarded once before, to Hans Lyklema in 2009 during the Council meeting in New York as one of the "founding fathers" of IACIS and longtime editor of the Newsletter until the end of 2008. Dimo Platikanov is now the second awardee of this Honorary Life Membership prize and we wish him still many activities within IACIS, in his scientific and personal life, and we wish a further continuous activity by Dimo for a successful future of IACIS.

Reinhard Miller and Hans Jürgen Butt,
 President and President-elect of IACIS 2015-2018



Honorary Life Membership for Dimo Platikanov.

[Back to the top](#)

Brothers and Sisters: ASCASS



ACCIS 2015

In 2015 the [Asian Society for Colloid and Surface Science](#) organized the [6th Asian Conference on Colloid and Interface Science](#) on November 24-27 in Arkas Sasebo, Sasebo, Japan. The conference attracted 300 participants from 18 countries including Japan, India, Taiwan, Korea and China, which sent the majority of the participants. Plenary lectures were presented by scientists from the USA, Australia and Japan. We appreciate the nice organization managed by the chair of the conference, Professor Osamu Shibata of Nagasaki International University.

The next, ACCIS 2017, will be held in Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

Prof. Kazue Kurihara, Tohoku University
 Immediate Past President IACIS

[Back to the top](#)

Selected announcements

The Center of Smart Interfaces at the Technische Universität Darmstadt, in collaboration with the Marie Curie Initial Training Network [CoWet](#), are holding a short course on Industrial Wetting from March 14-17, 2016 in Darmstadt. The course brings together 14 experts in the field for four days of lectures and discussions on many aspects of wetting phenomena: Fundamentals, preparation and characterization, complex surfaces and liquids, and various industrial applications. Further information and registration can be found [here](#).

Participation at the course is limited to 40 people, therefore interested prospective participants are urged to register early to secure a place.

[Back to the top](#)

Dan Eley: a life in Colloid and Surface Science



Dan Eley (1915-2015).

One of the "grand old men" of British colloid and surface chemistry, Professor Dan Eley OBE, FRS, FRSC, passed away on 3rd September 2015, just a month short of what would have been his 101st birthday. Dan was the last of the researchers alive who had worked with Sir Eric Rideal in the famous Colloid Science Laboratory in Free School Lane in Cambridge before the Second World War.

Dan was born near Liverpool, although his family moved to Nottingham when his father obtained a senior position with Boots, the drug company. Dan obtained his BSc, MSc and PhD (with Michael Polanyi) at Manchester University, before moving to Cambridge in 1937 to work with Rideal for a second PhD in the area of catalysis. This led to the famous Eley-Rideal mechanism for the kinetics of heterocatalytic reactions between molecules in the gas phase and molecules adsorbed on a solid surface ([D.D Eley & E.K. Rideal, Nature, 1940 146 401](#)). During the war Dan was seconded to the U.K. Ministry of Supply, where he held a reserved job as a safety inspector and advisor for munitions factories. After the war, in 1945, he was appointed to a lectureship in colloid science at the University of Bristol, under Professor W.E. Garner, where his interest soon turned to enzyme kinetics. He was appointed reader in biophysical chemistry in Bristol in 1951. In 1954 he moved to the University of Nottingham as professor of physical chemistry, taking with him a 23 years old postgraduate student in the middle of his PhD research: Geoffrey Parfitt (who went on to become a famous international colloid scientist in his own right and one of the principle founding fathers of IACIS). At Nottingham Dan's research interests broadened considerably. He worked in several areas including: colloids, DNA, heterogeneous catalysis, organic semi-conductors, molecular sieves, photochemistry and magnetic materials. With money from ICI he set up the "Centre for Colloid Science" in Nottingham. He was elected to the Royal Society (London) in 1964. Dan retired in 1980, but continued to be involved in research in the department as an emeritus professor. His wife, Brenda, died in 1992, but he was well cared for by his close family in Beeston where he lived. In October 2014 the University of Nottingham held a special symposium to mark Dan's 100th birthday ([YouTube movie: 100 candles periodic table of values](#)).

I lecture for the first time on Dan on several occasions, the first being in 1975 at his "Founder's Lecture" at the SCI. The SCI Founder's Lecture was set up in 1970 to honour the memory of Sir Eric Rideal, who, with others, had founded the SCI Surface and Colloid Chemistry Group in 1958. In 2005 this award was amalgamated with the RSC Colloid and Interface Science Group medal, as the "Rideal Award", which is awarded annually to a highly renowned person in surface and colloid science. Dan Eley was well-known as a typical "absent-minded professor". I remember on one occasion him turning up to give a talk having left his briefcase, containing his notes, at home! It is sad to think he has gone, but he will be well remembered by a whole generation of surface and colloid scientists, who had the pleasure to work with him, or just to meet him like myself.

Brian Vincent, Bristol.

[Back to the top](#)

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