Newsletter 61, January 2016



### 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** 

15<sup>th</sup> IACIS Conference 2015 in Mainz, Germany

very well due to the excellent organization as well as the very nice Convention Centre Rheingoldhalle suitable for such large scientific meetings. The 16<sup>th</sup> IACIS Conference 2018 will be organized in Delft, the Netherlands and also the 17<sup>th</sup> 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

Last year we had the 15<sup>th</sup> 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

### 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

## Mainz.

Reinhard Miller,

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.

President of IACIS 2015-2018 Back to the top **Honorary Life Membership for Dimo Platikanov** 

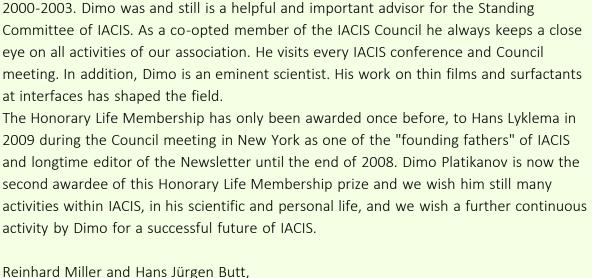
On behalf of the Standing Committee of IACIS, Dimo Platikanov was awarded the IACIS

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

Honorary Life Membership. The prize was given to him for his long-standing and

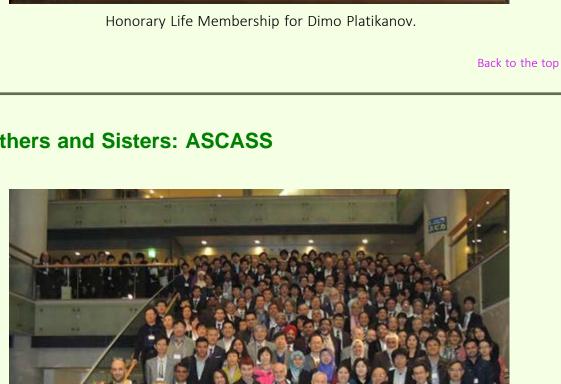
# Dimo Platikanov.

President and President-elect of IACIS 2015-2018



International Association of Colloid and Interface Scientists Dimo Platikanov has been awarded the Honorary Life Membership of the International Association of Colloid and Interface Scientists, or his long-standing and meritorious contributions to the Association

The President-elect



ACCIS 2015

enter 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.

In 2015 the Asian Society for Colloid and Surface Science organized the 6<sup>th</sup> 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

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

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

with Sir Eric Rideal in the famous Colloid Science Laboratory in Free School Lane in

Cambridge before the Second World War.

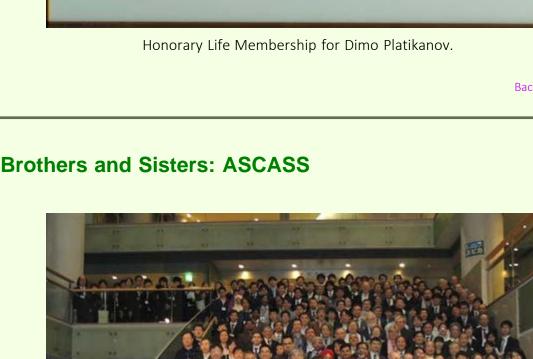
to work with Rideal for a second PhD in the area of catalysis. This led to the famous Eley-Rideal mechanism for the kinetics of heterocatalytic reactions between molecules in the gas phase and molecules adsorbed on a solid surface (D.D Eley & E.K. Rideal, Nature, 1940 146 401). During the war Dan was 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 was fortunate to meet 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

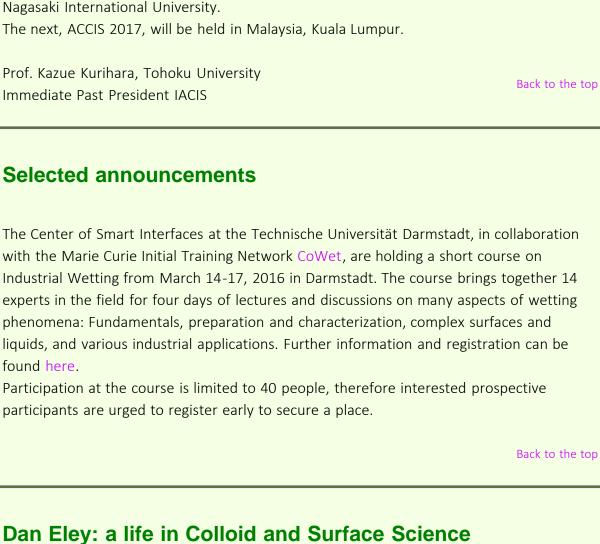
"absent-minded professor". I remember on one occasion him turning up to give a talk having left his briefcase, containing his notes, at home! It is sad to think he has gone, but he will be well remembered by a whole generation of surface and colloid scientists, who

had the pleasure to work with him, or just to meet him like myself.

Brian Vincent, Bristol.

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 The Lifetime Achievement Award 2015 to Björn Lindman was handed over by our now





Back to the top