

Newsletter 63, January 2017

## International Association of Colloid and Interface Scientists

In this newsletter you will find the following topics:

Update on the organization of IACIS2018 Brothers and Sisters Selected announcements Egon Matijevic (27 April 1922 - 20 July 2016) Wanted: new functionaries for IACIS

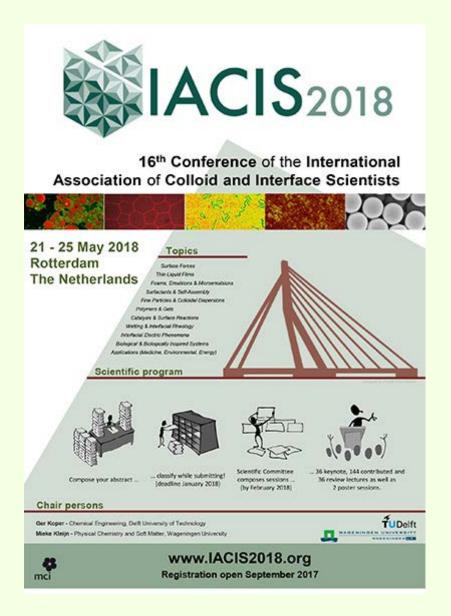
# Update on the organization of IACIS2018

Having established the MCI-group as our congress organizer as well as the Postillon Convention Centre WTC Rotterdam, locally known as *de Beurs*, as the conference venue we continued to establish the Scientific Committee (SC). The full SC is now posted on the *committee tab* of our web site.

The first task of the SC will be to propose plenary lecturers; one of the four slots will be for the recipient of the Life Time Achievement Award so there are three candidates to select. This is not so easy as it seems as we have quite some constraints:

- Concern for gender balance as described on our web site
- Distribution of topics: we would like to address "new" fields, not necessarily only biology but also energy/catalysis related would be welcomed.
- Originality: Some people, like Kathleen Stebe, have been plenary lecturer for very many a conference ... It would be nice to come up with new stars!

Of course, if you have a brilliant candidate that you would like to propose: please, feel free to contact the organizers!



Finally, we have started distributing our poster amongst all committee members, an electronic copy is available by clicking on the above image. If you know a brilliant place to put this poster (with permission of the local authorities), please let us know and we will send you a hard copy for **free**! We now have some 13 packed pairs of posters, so be fast if you wish to post one.

Mieke Kleijn and Ger Koper, Organizers

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## **Brothers and Sisters**

The *International Polymer Colloid Group* (IPCG) was founded in 1972 as a forum for exchange of ideas and emerging research activities for scientists and engineers from both academia and industry who study or use polymer colloids. The IPCG is comprised of about 100 researchers who are elected to membership. Activities include annual symposia including a biennial International Polymer Colloid Group Research Conference, and a semiannual newsletter that includes a summary of recent (including unpublished) research results from members.

This year's conference, IPCG2017, will be held from 25-30 June, 2017 in Arantzazu, Spain. Quite a number of IACIS members are invited to lecture at this conference, so it may be worth to have a look!

Taken from the IPCG website.

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#### **Selected announcements**

If it is a coincidence or not, we do not know. But both the Chemistry Department at Wageningen, home of our Honorable Secretary, and the Chemical Engineering department at Delft University of Technology, home of our Newsletter Editor, last year moved to a new but, more importantly, modern building. In both cases, the former laboratories were slowly but surely gotten surrounded by the city. Certainly for the Chemical Engineering building at TU Delft this subsequently raised serious safety issues. The new buildings are unfortunately for its inhabitants - far from the centres of their town but then the reward is a much more modern laboratory with (almost) all facilities one would wish for!



Physical Chemistry and Soft Matter, Wageningen



Chemical Engineering at the TU Delft

From time to time we receive requests for an announcement in this Newsletter. Unfortunately, some are clearly self-appraisals and - as stated earlier - we shall not publish those. The reason is simple: we do not wish to judge which ones should be in and which ones not. The more modest people would be neglected and that is not what we wish to achieve. If you wish us to do otherwise, please have a look at the article at the bottom of this newsletter.

However, other news items such as conference or workshop announcements are welcomed. But also, the opening of new institutes or the like could be considered. Please, let us know what you consider worthy of knowing for the IACIS.

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# Egon Matijevic (27 April 1922 - 20 July 2016)





Egon Matijevic (right) with Ger Koper (left) and Dick Bedeaux (middle) in the bar during the International Workshop *Particles and Surfaces: Fundamentals, Techniques and Applications* held in Oud Poelgeest, near Leiden, NL, March 13-16, 1999.

The first time I learnt about Egon Matijevic was while studying the book on light scattering of small particles by Milton Kerker. In many places of the book, references to articles with Matijevic were made in particular where fine particles were discussed. The book as well as the methods to make standard particles by Matijevic were then - and probably still are - widely used in cytology, the study of cells, in particular connected to cancer research. When I later turned to colloid science, my interest in the work of Matijevic grew again: he was the master in synthesizing particles of all kinds of composition, shapes and sizes. It was very clear that he made Potsdam, NY for a while the Colloid Center of the Universe. It is not for nothing that in this period he was president of the IACIS (1983-1985) and that the IACIS conference of 1985 was held in Potsdam, NY.

When I regularly visited Clarkson University in the late 90's, Matijevic in his 70s was still very active at Clarkson University and it was very clear that he still played an important role in its leadership. He published 581 papers and held 17 patents. As a mentor, he instructed 15,000 undergraduate students and advised more than 50 PhD candidates, 50 MSc students, and 130 postdoctoral scholars. He delivered more than 70 plenary and keynote lectures at meetings and symposia in dozens of countries worldwide, including the prestigious Faraday Discourse at the Royal Institution in London.

Matijevic was a brilliant scholar whose prolific and inspired research helped to shape modern colloid and surface science. His techniques have found applications in products like the capacitors used in microelectronics, magnetic memories, and the ceramics used in electronic components. It is for this reason that we invited him in 1999 to our workshop on *Particles and Surfaces: Fundamentals, Techniques and Applications* (see above picture). The organization of the workshop required discussion leaders that were themselves adequately knowledgeable in the field of their session and Matijevic did not disappoint us! 59 years of service to Clarkson University, indeed their oldest and longest serving active, full-time faculty member, have now come to an end. Many like myself will cherish good memories of him despite his at times strong opinions and incredible drive. As IACIS we should be thankful for him taking the leadership as well as organizing an IACIS conference.

Ger Koper

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# Wanted: new Honorary Secretary & Treasurer and new Newsletter Editor & Webmaster for IACIS

Since 2006 the function of IACIS Honorary Secretary & Treasurer is performed by Mieke Kleijn (Wageningen University, The Netherlands). Ger Koper (Technical University of Delft, The Netherlands) has been the IACIS Newsletter & Webmaster since 2010. Both will retire from these functions in 2018. So, it is time to have a look around for possible candidates to take over!

Apart from the work and responsibilities listed below, both functions offer an excellent opportunity to get in touch with many scientists in our field and build on a world-wide network in colloid and interface science. Both the Honorary Secretary & Treasurer and Newsletter Editor & Webmaster are appointed by the Council of IACIS. Furthermore, they are members of the Council and of the Standing Committee; the latter is formed together with the President, President-elect and Immediate Past President.

The Honorary Secretary & Treasurer is responsible for dealing with all membership matters, and for properly handling of financial matters; in addition the job involves responsibility for the elections of Council members and President.

The NL Editor & Webmaster is responsible for the IACIS Newsletter, which is sent every 2 - 3 months per email to all IACIS members, and for the IACIS website.

If you are interested or have any questions about these vacancies, do not hesitate to contact Mieke Kleijn or Ger Koper.

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You receive this newsletter because you are registered as a member of IACIS. If you happen not be a member, please contact the **Honorary Secretary**. For comments or suggestions, please contact the **Newsletter Editor**.

