International Association of Colloid and Interface Scientists

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From your Newsletter Editor



A lot has happened since the last IACIS Newsletter. As we slowly get out of the pandemic, in person scientific meetings become possible again. A new uncertainty arose when Russia invaded Ukraine. This also affects the scientific community. As standing committee of the IACIS we felt it was necessary to send out a statement to our community. Finally sad news: My Thermodynamics teacher and former colleague Gerard Fleer passed away on February 22; the obituary can be found at the end of this newsletter.

If you have information that is relevant for our community or you would like to showcase your publication, send me an email so it can be included in our next NL, deadline June 15.

Stay safe, take care and make the best of it.

Your Newsletter Editor, Saskia Lindhoud

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17th Conference of the International Association of Colloid and Interface Scientists, IACIS2022, Update





Notifications for the first round of oral presentations have been sent out and an exciting programme is taking shape. The twelve finalists for the inaugural IACIS Emerging Investigator Award have been chosen by our jury from a very strong pool of nominees. We are sure they are looking forward to hearing the finalists' talks, and then to the even tougher job of selecting three winners. Our thanks to everyone who nominated, the jury, and to Kao Corporation for their sponsorship of this award.

Poster presentation abstracts are still being accepted. COVID has changed the landscape for posters, which aren't what they used to be! Posters consisting of up to five slides with embedded video recording will be available to all participants on the conference app throughout IACIS2022; We will also have dedicated slots in the program for poster presentations and discussions for each theme.

We are extending the Early-bird Registration deadline for IACIS2022, by two weeks to Monday April 11th, so that everyone receiving this newsletter still has a chance to register at the early-bird rate. If you are unsure about your travel plans to Brisbane, remember that early-bird online registration can be upgraded to in-person at the early-bird rate. Please plan to stay on after IACIS2022 for our Advanced Workshop on the Characterisation of Colloids and Interfaces at the University of Queensland on June 30th, with an optional second day on July 1st. This will feature hands-on training as well as masterclass lectures and workshop sessions on writing proposals for major beamline facilities, with contributions from the Australian Centre for Neutron Research and Australian Synchrotron. The following week is the Royal Australian Chemical Institute (RACI) National Congress at the same venue in Brisbane. Consider staying on for that, or just to spend some time in Queensland or other parts of Australia. Check the website https://www.iacis2022.org regularly for other updates on the conference as well as satellite and related events, and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or WeChat using @IACIS2022. Students, don't forget the Koala Lloyd competition for a free registration (online or in-person). As we are becoming more free to move around more freely, share your photos of Koala Lloyd also getting out and about on social media with the tags @IACIS2022 | #IACIS2022 | #koalalloyd. For more information about sponsorship or to discuss the added possibilities that the hybrid conference offers, please contact our professional conference organiser's sponsorship and exhibition manager, Mr Jonathon Walker (jwalker@arinex.com.au). We are committed to creating an inclusive, accessible, supportive, and harassmentfree environment for scientific exchange for every participant, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, race, or religion. We look forward to seeing you in Brisbane, or online. Ian Gentle and Greg Warr on behalf of the IACIS2022 Organising Committee. Back to the top Showcase your publication found here. deadline for submitting your showcase text is June 15. Your Newsletter Editor, Saskia Lindhoud nanosheets for the recovery of lamellar structure nanosheets were rarely investigated in colloid dispersions. intercalation of various molecules among LDH layers. The doi for the full article is 10.1016/j.colcom.2021.100564. Back to the top **36th European Colloid and Interface Society** Conference, Chania, Crete, Greece, 4-9 September 2022 ECIS 2022

A side effect of the current pandemic is the lack of opportunities for young scientists Self-assembly of delaminated layered double hydroxide

to present their work at international conferences. Therefore we would like to invite PhD students to showcase recent publications in the IACIS Newsletter. The idea is to write a short text in which you explain about your PhD topic, your recent publication and why it is interesting for our community. Detailed guidelines can be The aim is to include 2 or 3 showcase texts in each Newsletter, preferably from three different continents. The next Newsletter will appear beginning of July, the I am Adél Szerlauth, 2nd year PhD student in the MTA-SZTE Momentum Biocolloids Research Group at the University of Szeged in Hungary, under the supervision of István Szilágyi. My PhD research is concerned with layered double hydroxide (LDH) nanoparticles, from preparation through functionalization and characterization to application as building blocks in nanocomposites developed for antioxidant utilization. Numerous contemporary studies have dealt with the delamination processes of LDHs, however, the aggregation mechanism of the unilamellar This issue was pursued in our article recently published in the journal Colloid and Interface Science Communications. Accordingly, restacking and aggregation processes of 2D LDH particles was studied in the presence of electrolytes by light scattering and atomic force microscopy. Our results revealed that the aggregation mechanism of the nanosheets can be divided into two distinct regimes. First, the lamellar structure was recovered by restacking of the unilamellar nanosheets, as confirmed by hydrodynamic size and height profile assessments. Second, after a threshold value, so-called critical coagulation time, random aggregation of the lamellar LDHs occurred leading to house-of-card structures. This guantitative study can significantly contribute to the understanding of the restacking mechanism of single layered 2D nanosheets, and it can be a useful tool to design controlled

Dear colleagues, It is our great pleasure to invite you to the 36th Conference of the European Colloid and Interface Society (ECIS), that will take place from 4th-9th of September 2022 in Chania, on the island of Crete, Greece. Important dates are Important dates:

Abstract submission: 14/4/2022 Notice of acceptance: 4/5/2022 Early bird registration: until 10/6/2022 Final program announcement: 30/6/2022

ECIS 2022 will be organized by the Hellenic Polymer Society, under the auspices of the ECIS, and aspires to bring together participants working in the interdisciplinary field of Colloid and Interface Science, with a broad background ranging from chemistry and physics to biology and engineering. Sessions are on:

- Polymers, Polyelectrolytes, Gels and Liquid Crystals
- Design and Synthesis of colloidal systems and nanoparticles
- Colloidal Dispersions, Colloidal Stability and Surface Forces
- Theory and Multi-scale Modeling of Colloids and Interfaces • Self-Assembly and Supramolecular Structures
- Colloidal systems in External Fields
- Wetting Phenomena, Responsive Colloids and Surfaces
- Active and Bioinspired Colloidal systems
- Colloids at Interfaces, Membranes and Biointerfaces, Emulsions and Foams Colloids in Biomaterials and Biomedical applications
- Advanced colloid science for applications and products
- Composite Materials and Nanostructures

In addition we host a Chinese-European Symposium with a focusses on collaborations (see info attached).

Complementing the scientific program, a diverse social program shall expose the participants to the history, culture and magnificent nature of mountains and beaches of Crete. We look forward to welcoming you to Crete in 2022!

George Petekidis, Maria Vamvakaki, Benoit Loppinet

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18th European Student Colloid Conference

Call for the Next Generation of Colloid and Interface Scientists

The European Colloid a Interface Society (ECIS) and the Hungarian Chemical Society (MKE) invite you to participate in the 18th European Student Colloid Conference, to be held at the University of Szeged (USz) in Szeged, Hungary, from 26th to 30th of June, 2022.

ECIS organizes these biannual meetings to motivated students at PhD and MSc level who are undertaking research at a European University, or being in collaborative linkage with European research groups. These meetings are intended for students to present their work to their peers and to promote scientific and social interactions.

We cordially welcome you and hope that you will all enjoy a stimulating and fruitful five days during the 18th ESC in Szeged!

Information about the conference can be found on our website: escconf2022.mke.org.hu



14th International Symposium on Electrokinetics

The 14th International Symposium on Electrokinetics (ELKIN) and Research Workshop of the Israel Science Foundation will be held at Tel-Aviv University (TAU), from July 4-6, 2022. Information about the conference can be found on our website:

http://elkin2022.eng.tau.ac.il/



23rd Symposium on Surfactants in Solution

The "Surfactants in Solution" conference series was initiated by Kash Mittal and took place for the first time in 1976 in Albany, New York. After two more meetings held in the USA (Knoxville and Potsdam), the symposium series became international: Lund (1982), Bordeaux (1984), New Delhi (1986), Ottawa (1988), Gainesville (1990), Varna (1992), Caracas (1994), Jerusalem (1996), Stockholm (1998), Gainesville (2000), Barcelona (2002), Fortaleza (2004), Seoul (2006), Berlin (2008), Melbourne (2010), Edmonton (2012), Coimbra (2014), Jinan (2016) and Norman (2018).

After the 23td SIS war postponed twice due to the Corona pandemic, it is now scheduled for September 11 to 16, 2022 Lublin, Poland. The plenary speakers are Ramon Rubio (Madrid), Jong-Duk Kim (Daejeon), Brian Grady (Norman), Kazimiera Anna Wilk (Wroclaw). Part of the conference are two symposia, one on "Surfactants" in Tribology" and one on "Adsorption layer dynamics at liquid interfaces"... More information about this conference can be found at sis2022.umcs.eu



In Memoriam: Gerard Fleer, brilliant mind and loyal friend



On February 27, 2022, Gerard J. Fleer, former professor at Wageningen University, The Netherlands, passed away at the age of 79. Gerard served two terms, from 1994 to 2006, as the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of the International Association of Colloid and Interface Scientists.

Born into a textile worker's family in the Dutch village of Overdinkel, where the village headmaster considered higher education inappropriate in his case, it seemed unlikely that he would follow an academic career. However, Gerard's father believed in his son's talents and sent him to secondary school and to Utrecht University, where he majored in Physical Chemistry under Prof. Theo Overbeek. He then moved to Wageningen for a PhD; his supervisor there was Hans Lyklema, professor in Physical Chemistry and Colloid Science. Gerard's thesis dealt with the flocculation of silver iodide sols by poly(vinyl alcohol), and the research for his thesis stimulated his desire to better understand the adsorption of polymers at the solid / solution interface. This led to a post-doctoral year at the National Bureau of Standards in Washington DC, primarily to carry out advanced adsorption measurements. Luckily, he was introduced there to the physicist Ed DiMarzio, who had been attempting to develop a theory for polymer adsorption, but encountered problems in doing so. Back in Wageningen Gerard took up supervision of an MSc student by the name of Jan Scheutjens, who soon came up with ideas to overcome DiMarzio's problems. This became the birth of the Scheutjens-Fleer theory, a statistical thermodynamic theory that allows one to model adsorption or selfassembly of large and complex molecules (e.g., linear and branched (co-)polymers) without the need to use molecular simulation.

Developing this theory, and its experimental testing, became core activities of Gerard's research group, and his work was highly appreciated by many in the Colloid Science and Soft Matter community as well as in the Polymer Physics community. Fruitful collaborations developed between the Colloid Science groups of Wageningen and Bristol, which ultimately resulted in the monograph 'Polymers at Interfaces' of which Gerard was the main author.

Through his personality and scientific style he had impact in many ways. He was awarded the Overbeek Gold Medal in 2009 by the European Colloid and Interface Science society in recognition of his scientific contributions. He also had great influence on the careers of his students, his colleagues at home and abroad, and on the Wageningen Laboratory of Physical Chemistry and Colloid Science, that he always considered his scientific home base.

The complete obituary of Gerard Fleer written by Martien Cohen Stuart and Brian Vincent can be found here.

Text from the complete obituary was adjusted by your Newsletter Editor

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