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Preface

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Preface

2005 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ADVANCED FIBERS AND POLYMER MATERIALS (ICAFPM 2005), SHANGHAI, CHINA, OCTOBER 19–21, 2005



World-wide interest in advanced fibers and polymer materials is continuing to grow rapidly. The “2005 International Conference on Advanced Fibers and Polymer Materials (ICAFM2005)” with the theme of *New Century, New Materials and New Life*, which is of great concern to worldwide scientists and scholars, was held in Shanghai, China, from October 19th to 22nd, 2005. It was organized by the State Key Laboratory for Modification of Chemical Fibers and Polymer Materials established by the Ministry of Science and Technology of China in 1992. The Conference provided the world polymer community with an opportunity to exchange ideas, met old friends and make new friends as well as to discuss the mission and challenges of polymer science and technology in the 21st century.

More than 400 participants, including about 150 scientists, representing 18 countries took part and presented a rich and varied scientific program that included 9 plenary

lectures, 34 invited lectures, 50 contributed oral presentations and about 200 posters covering the six topics of the conference: (a) Functional polymers and fibers, (b) High-performance polymers, fibers and composites, (c) Nano-composites and fibers, (d) Bio- and smart materials and fibers, (e) Inorganic and other novel fibers, and (f) Advanced processing methods, equipments and applications. To cultivate interdisciplinary activities, close interaction was needed between scientists and technologists with different areas of expertise. Hence, in addition to outstanding polymer scientists and technologists, several distinguished scientists and technologists from the fields of physics, biology, chemistry, and related areas participated in the conference.

In the coming years, the focus of polymer research is expected to shift more towards collaborative, interdisciplinary projects and international partnerships will become more and more important. Mechanisms for more efficient collaboration were pursued as part of the mission of the conference. Other topics of general significance, such as encouraging polymer physicists, polymer chemists, materials scientists and engineers to apply their models and methods to address targeted problems in polymer fields, also fell within the scope of the meeting. In this sense, the meeting contributed significantly to the world's polymer industry. More than 300 research presentations were accepted for this conference. It is our honor, the host of this conference, to gather the participants' contributions and fruits of their presentations. It is our hope that the proceedings of ICAFPM 2005, associated with the theme of this conference will contribute to the brilliant future of the world. In addition to a number of articles from other organizations, many of the articles in this issue of *Journal of Macromolecular science, Physics* (or *Pure and Applied Chemistry*) were chosen to demonstrate the recent research achievements of State Key Laboratory for Modification of Chemical Fibers and Polymer Materials and College of Materials Science and Engineering, Donghua University. An additional 27 (or 27) articles of a more chemical and applied nature are included in a special issue of *Journal of Macromolecular Science: Pure and Applied Chemistry* (or *Physics*).

We hereby would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the article contributors and participants of this conference, and cordial respect to all the personnel who made an enormous effort to ensure the success of this conference. Financial support by The Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC), K. C. Wong Education Foundation, Polymer Division of the Chinese Chemical Society, China, China Chemical Fiber Association, China Petroleum & Chemical Corp., Shanghai Textile Holding Corp., Shanghai Huayi Co., Shanghai Genius Advanced Material Co., Ltd. and Jiangsu Textile Industry Import & Export Co., Ltd. is also greatly appreciated.



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