

Editorial

## Dedication to Professor Boyd



This issue of *Polymer* honors Professor Richard Hays Boyd. Papers for this special issue were solicited and contributed by many colleagues in conjunction with a symposium entitled “Coupling Simulations and Experiments in Polymer Science” held at the University of Utah, May 15–17, 2003. Twenty-six invited lectures by many of the prominent polymer scientists in the world stimulated an audience of friends, students, and colleagues in the Intermountain Network and Scientific Computing Center Auditorium at the University of Utah.

Richard H. Boyd was born in Columbus, Ohio and graduated in Chemistry from Ohio State University. He received his doctorate in Physical Chemistry from MIT. He learned about polymers during 7 years at the DuPont Experimental Station. He later taught chemistry at Utah State University. In 1967, he moved to the University of Utah to join the Chemical Engineering Department and also to help found the Department of Materials Science and Engineering. He holds the rank of Distinguished Professor in both departments and was Chairman of MSE on two

occasions. His research interests concern the molecular structure of polymers and their physical properties, especially the connection between molecular motions and relaxation processes. Dielectric relaxation spectroscopy and computer simulations directed toward molecular interpretation have been long term interests. Professor Boyd has received the University of Utah Distinguished Research Award, the Utah Award of the American Chemical Society, the Polymer Physics Prize of the American Physical Society and the International Award of the Society of Plastics Engineers. He is a Fellow of the American Physical Society and has been Chairman of the Division of Polymer Physics. He has chaired the Gordon Research Conference on Dielectric Phenomena. He has been visiting professor at the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm on several occasions and been visiting scientist at NIST. He has served on the editorial advisory boards of several journals including *Polymer* (currently) and *Macromolecules*. He has authored numerous research publications and a textbook on polymers. Twenty-four students have completed doctoral degrees under his supervision. The myriad of students who have had the pleasure of taking courses from Dick have had the additional privilege of learning the basics of polymer physics from a truly gifted and enthusiastic teacher.

On a personal note, the four of us take great pride in acknowledging the special contributions, which Richard Boyd made in advising, nurturing and furthering each of our own careers. Further, we wish to express our appreciation to Dick not only for his insight and wisdom as a scientist, but also his friendship; our lives have been enriched by having known him. We owe him a debt of gratitude which can never be fully paid, but for which this special issue is a small token.

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