

Physical Aspects of Polymer Science 2026 (PAPS2026)

University of Nottingham, 9–11 September 2026

Wednesday, 9 September

Time	Session
12:00 PM – 1:45 PM	Registration and Lunch
1:45 PM – 2:00 PM	Welcome from the Chair of the PPG Committee and Local Organisation — Joao Cabral, Imperial College, UK
Session I — Chair: Chris Finlayson	
2:00 PM – 2:50 PM	Invited: Claire McIlroy (University of Leeds, UK) Theory and modelling of complex non-Newtonian fluids for industrial flow applications
2:50 PM – 3:05 PM	Oliver Odira Anyanor (Swansea University, UK) <i>Equilibrium and non-equilibrium mixing in polymer/small-molecule thin-films</i>
3:05 PM – 3:20 PM	Richard Hodgkinson (University of Sheffield, UK) <i>High temperature NMR/MRI assessment of molten polymers via a simple high temperature cell</i>
3:20 PM – 3:35 PM	Daniel Read (University of Leeds, UK) <i>Entropic phase separation in vitrimer–polymer melts</i>
3:35 PM – 4:00 PM	Coffee Break 1
Session II — Chair: William Sharratt	
4:00 PM – 4:50 PM	DPOLY/PPG Exchange Lecture: Jeffrey G. Ethier (US Air Force Research Laboratory) Revisiting Polymer Solution Thermodynamics: A Physics-Informed Machine Learning Approach
4:50 PM – 5:05 PM	Jessica Steele (University of Manchester, UK) <i>A high-throughput screening of the effects of composition on thermodynamic and structural properties in styrene-butadiene rubber compounds</i>
5:05 PM – 5:20 PM	Alexander Chervanyov (University of Münster, Germany) <i>Effect of solid fillers on the stability, miscibility and conductivity of selected polymer composites: Multiscale approach.</i>
5:20 PM – 5:35 PM	Samuel Ericson (University of Manchester, UK) <i>PolyRapid: Automated High-Throughput Screening of Polymers Using a Computational Workflow</i>
5:35 PM – 7:00 PM	Poster Session and Drinks Reception
7:00 PM	Dinner at Cripps Hall of Residence

Thursday, 10 September

Time	Session
8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	Registration and Coffee
Session III — Chair: Daniel Read	
9:00 AM – 9:50 AM	Invited talk: Bradley Olsen (Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA) Network Mechanics
9:50 AM – 10:05 AM	Chris Finlayson (Aberystwyth University, UK) <i>Simulating the Molecular Dynamics of Shear-induced ordering in Polymer Opals</i>
10:05 AM – 10:20 AM	Jared Seaton (Imperial College, UK) <i>Solution conformation and interactions of model ABA amphiphilic block copolymers and surfactants</i>
10:20 AM – 10:35 AM	Peter Lewin-Jones (University of Bristol, UK) <i>Multi-scale Modelling of Hydrogel Polymer Networks</i>
10:35 AM – 10:50 AM	Martin Greenall (University of Lincoln, UK) <i>Microphase separation and coil-coil/rod-coil crossover in semi-fluorinated diblock copolymers</i>
10:50 AM – 11:30 AM	Coffee Break 2
Session IV — Chair: Michael Weir	
11:30 AM – 12:20 PM	Invited Talk: Simon Titmuss (Edinburgh University, UK) Evaporation of Concentrated Polymer Solutions is Insensitive to Relative Humidity
12:20 PM – 12:35 PM	Can Hou (RWTH Aachen University, Germany) <i>Ditopic counterions: how multiple charge centres influence behaviour and properties of polyelectrolyte solutions</i>
12:35 PM – 12:50 PM	Richard Thompson (Durham University, UK) <i>Polymer Interfacial Modification Strategies for Nanofiltration Membranes</i>
12:50 PM – 1:05 PM	Ariana Wanvig Dot (Imperial College, UK) <i>Impact of polymer chain length and interactions on single droplet-to-particle formation in acoustic levitation</i>
1:05 PM – 1:20 PM	Matthew Hennessy (University of Bristol, UK) <i>Predicting the maximum curvature of slowly drying/swelling hydrogel beams</i>
1:20 PM – 2:30 PM	Group Photo and Lunch
Session V- Chair: Anthony Higgins	
2:30 PM – 3:20 PM	Invited: Costantino Creton (ESPCI, Paris) Mechanical properties of polymers at interfaces: Deformation and fracture of soft polymer networks
3:20 PM – 3:35 PM	Ama Asiedu-Asante (University of Newcastle, UK) <i>A Water-Based Reversible Adhesive for Sustainable Electronic Packaging</i>
3:35 PM – 3:50 PM	Mohand Saed (University of Cambridge, UK) <i>Dynamic Pressure-Sensitive Adhesion in Liquid Crystal Elastomers</i>

Time	Session
3:50 PM – 4:05 PM	Joseph Chu (University of Nottingham, UK) <i>Thermomechanical Modelling of the Deformation and Failure of Polycarbonate at Impact Rates of Strain.</i>
4:05 PM – 4:20 PM	Abdulraheem Abdullah Alrefai (University of Newcastle, UK) <i>Energy release rate and fracture process zone in PDMS elastomers</i>
4:20 PM – 4:50 PM	Coffee Break 3
Session VI — Prize Lecture Session — Chair: Joao Cabral	
4:50 PM – 5:10 PM	Ian Macmillan Ward Prize Lecture for the Best Student Publication
5:10 PM – 6:20 PM	Founders' Prize Lecture: Helen Gleeson (University of Leeds, UK) Molecular metamaterials – the magic of auxetic elastomers
6:30 PM – 9:30 PM	Coach to Conference Dinner (Memsaab Restaurant)
9:30 PM – 10:00 PM	Return coach to University Park Campus – End of Day Two

Friday, 11 September

Time	Session
Session VII — Chair: Richard Thompson	
8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	Morning Refreshments 2
9:00 AM – 9:50 AM	Invited: William Sharratt (University of Liverpool, UK) Mapping Equilibrium and Non-Equilibrium Structural Evolution in Semi-Dilute Polymer Solutions and Hydrogels
9:50 AM – 10:05 AM	Monika Lingemann (University of Nottingham, UK) <i>Thermally expandable microspheres for composites demanufacturing: The physics of polymeric microsphere expansion</i>
10:05 AM – 10:20 AM	Holly Thomas (University of Surrey, UK) <i>Cellulose-Based Sustainable Packaging: Does Ozone Treatment Affect the Wetting Properties of Polymeric Coatings on Cellulose?</i>
10:20 AM – 10:35 AM	José Santos Pereira (University of Lisbon, Portugal) <i>From Polymer Solution Structure to Particle Formation: Drying of Acoustically Levitated HPMC Droplets</i>
10:35 AM – 10:50 AM	Jasper Knox (University of Bristol, UK) <i>Salt-regulated coarsening dynamics of liquid coacervates</i>
10:50 AM - 11:30 AM	Coffee Break 4
Session VIII — Chair: James Sharp	
11:30 AM -11:45 AM	Kamendra P. Sharma (Indian Institute of Technology Bombay) <i>When Similar Meet and Greet: Driving Unprecedented Like-Charge Assembly in Aqueous Solutions of Weak Cationic Polymers and Dynamics in Ultrathin Polymer films</i>

Time	Session
11:45 AM – 12:00 PM	Andrew Parnell (University of Sheffield, UK) <i>Real-Time Neutron Reflectivity Reveals Bulk-Like Expansivity</i>
12:00 PM – 12:15 PM	Ghifari Ridwan (Imperial College, UK) - (Prof João T. Cabral to present) <i>Actuation and locomotion in asymmetric polymer networks</i>
12:15 PM – 12:30 PM	Zain Ahmad (Imperial College, UK) Water sorption and swelling dynamics in plasma-oxidised PDMS thin films probed by neutron reflectometry
12:30 PM – 12:45 PM	Josephine Binks (Durham University, UK) <i>The adsorption of soil-release polymers at model fabric interfaces and their efficiency in removal of complex body soils</i>
12:45 PM – 1:00 PM	Katrina and Alexei Likhtman Award Ceremony
1:00 PM – 1:05 PM	Closing Remarks
1:15 PM – 2:00 PM	Lunch & Removal of Posters
2:00 PM	Conference Closes and Depart