Professor Fosong Wang on his 80th birthday: A great scientist and a great ambassador

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It is a great pleasure for international colleagues in polymer science to celebrate Professor Fosong Wang on his 80th birthday.

Professor Fosong Wang, a member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, is a great polymer scientist, with over 300 publications and a few books. He is internationally recognized in his work on stereoregular polymers and electronically active polymers, particularly the development of excellent catalysts for olefin polymerization based on rare-earth elements. More recently he is active in developing organic light-emitting materials and others at his Key Laboratory of Engineering Plastics.

With these achievements, Professor Wang is also a great ambassador who has promoted international activities of the Chinese polymer community in science as well as in human exchange. For example, his position as a member of the National People's Congress (NPC) of China (particularly responsible for foreign affairs and international relations) has often paved ways for many international polymer societies to come in close contact with Chinese polymer scientists. He has been a frequent visitor to Japan, also visiting the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to discuss international

matters, and has organized a number of China-Japan bilateral symposia in polymer science. He has also been a titular member of IUPAC Polymer Division (Division IV; previously Macromolecular Division) and a council member of the Pacific Polymer Federation, and more recently he has contributed to establish the Federation of Asian Polymer Societies, a new federation in polymer science covering all the polymer societies in Asia. Through these active and continuing activities, he has promoted international exchanges in polymer science between China and overseas counterparts.

Recognizing these contributions, both in polymer science and in international relations, the Society of Polymer Science, Japan (SPSJ) presented him the 2001 SPSJ International Award, the SPSJ's highest recognition of international colleagues. This has just extended his long list of awards and recognition, including the National Natural Science and Technology Prize, Special Class (1982) and the Award of Chemistry, HLHL Prize (2002).

On behalf of all his international colleagues and friends, I appreciate Professor Wang for his contributions and do wish Fosong the best for his health and further success in his career.

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