Waterborne coatings: continuing innovations

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In this issue of *Journal of Coatings Technology and Research*, we present some of the most outstanding papers presented at the 40th Waterborne Symposium sponsored by the University of Southern Mississippi, which took place in New Orleans, LA in February of 2013. These papers continue the storied tradition of innovation and research excellence that has marked all 40 years of the Waterborne Symposium's history. Included in this issue is a paper by Prof. Michael Van De Mark, which won the Shelby F. Thames Best Paper competition at last year's symposium. It details advances in the synthesis and characterization of colloidal unimolecular particles (CUPs). Also included is an overview of recent advances in different emulsion polymerizations and processes from Timothy McKen-

na's laboratory in Lyon, France. Other papers from the Waterborne Symposium touch on liquid crystal polymers and epoxies.

In addition to the papers from the Waterborne Symposium, this issue brings together other timely articles devoted to waterborne coatings including pigment dispersion, intumescent coatings, the drying of coatings, and anticorrosive coatings.

The continued interest in waterborne coatings is evidenced by the depth and breadth of the papers presented here. As regional and national concerns about VOC emissions continue, we expect that both academic and industrial researchers will remain focused on providing breakthroughs in the performance and properties of waterborne coatings.

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