

Symposium and Summer School “Current Topics in Polymer Science”

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The Symposium and Summer School “Current Topics in Polymer Science” took place June 6–11, 2011, at the Kazan State Engineering University (KSEU). The symposium and school were dedicated to the memory of Professor Yevgenii Vasilyevich Kuznetsov, who worked at this university: in those days it was called the Kirov Institute of Chemical Engineering. The event received support from the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation and from the State Educational Institution of Higher Professional Education (KGTU).

Yevgenii Vasilyevich Kuznetsov was a famous Soviet scientist, an honored worker of science and technology of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tatarstan, a Doctor of Chemistry, and the chair of Technology of Plastic Mass at KGTU. He founded a scientific and pedagogical school, whose high reputation is still maintained today by its students. His first scientific works were related to organophosphorous compounds. The synthesis of monomers was conducted on the basis of phosphene and derivative polymers with phosphor in the main chain. In addition, new derivative polyurethanes (alkyldioxymethylphosphene) were synthesized, and synthesis of organophosphorous antipyrenes for polymers, synthesis of edoxide oligomers, modified halogenated by phosphate, and synthesis of phosphorus-containing polysulphon were performed. His works on modifying Ziegler–Natta catalyzers for organophosphorous compounds to increase their activity and selectivity, and on synthesizing polyurethane and polyureas containing organophosphorous compounds, were received with great interest.

Such famous scientists as Professor G.S. Dyakov (rector of KGTU), Professor A.M. Kochnev, Professor O.V. Stoyanov, Professor R.Ya. Deberdeyev, Professor S.I. Volfson, Professor Yu.G. Galyametdinov, and Professor Kh.M. Yaroshevskaya were members of the organizing committee.

Various world-renown scientists presented their reports at the plenary meetings. Professor A. Arinsh-teyn (Technology Institute of Israel, Haifa City) dedicated his two presentations to the mechanics and thermodynamic properties of nanoobjects, as well as to the production and applications of nanofibers. Professor A.Ye. Chalykh (Frumkin Institute of Physical Chemistry and Electrochemistry, Russian Academy of Sciences) gave a presentation on the translating mobility

of macromolecules, and Professor A.G. Sirota (chairman of the sector of plastics of the St. Petersburg Division of the Russian Chemical Society) dedicated his speech to problems of the durability of products made from polyethylene.

The report by Professor G.Ye. Zaikov (Emanuel Institute of Biochemical Physics, Russian Academy of Sciences) touched upon questions of the applications of kinetics in chemistry, biology, medicine, and agriculture, and the lecture by Professor A.Yu. Alentyev (Chemistry Department, Moscow State University) spoke on problems concerned with the creation and applications of polymeric gas separation membranes. Multifunctional liquid-crystal polymeric materials and their optical and electrical properties were discussed in the report by Professor V. Khaaze (Technological University, Darmstadt, Germany).

Two hundred fifty employees and students from 35 research centers and higher educational institutes of the Russian Federation took part in the work of the symposium and school. Young scientists presented their scientific work at poster sessions. There were more than 100 poster presentations altogether. They were dedicated to different questions of synthesis, studies of properties and research on applications of different polymers, compositions (including nano-compositions) and filled polymers. A considerable number of posters dealt with problems of destruction, stabilization, and burning of polymers, as well as the synthesis of stabilizer and antipyrenes. Some of the reports were dedicated to problems of petrochemistry and the use of petrochemical raw materials in agriculture. Some posters presenting new recipes for high quality asphalt with advanced properties attracted special interest.

It is intended to translate some of the student posters into English and to publish the proceedings of the symposium with Nova Science Publishers (New York).

Special thanks are due to O.V. Stoyanov (Chairman of the Department of Technologies of Plastic Mass, Dean of the Department of Technology, Processing, and Certification of Plastics and Compositions) for exceptional scientific and organizational work during the symposium.

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