

2017 ASMS Polymers Workshop

Chair – S Rumbelow

Co-chair – Christina Mastromatteo

This year's meeting was run with a different format to previous ones, in that there were three distinct sections; a workshop, student posters and an open forum.

After the introductions and greetings, Kevin Owens (Drexel) gave a short presentation honoring Bill Simonsick, who had passed away earlier this year and played a prominent role in industrial polymer mass spectrometry, throughout his career at DuPont and Lubrizol. Kevin then proceeded to lead a workshop on current and best practices on MALDI analysis, particularly with regards to polymer analysis and characterization. He illustrated his talk with various examples and what how various factors need to be considered in successfully obtaining meaningful data.

This was followed by a series of short presentations (3-5 min each) by students (primarily from Drexel and Akron universities) on their forthcoming poster presentations. Moreover, when this was opened up to other poster presenters and some attendees also took the opportunity to do so too. This appeared to be popular with the audience and gave an opportunity for each presenter to promote their work externally to a professional scientific audience in their specialized field.

The meeting finally closed with an open discussion in which attendees were invited to ask about any particular issues or questions that they would like to ask for help with. In addition, input was sought for future Workshop topics.

As with the previous year's meeting, attendance held steady with ca 60 attendees. The organizers plan to subsequently reach out to them through email and identify a suitable forum for all to exchange ideas and gauge interest in potential topics for next year's meeting.