

2018 ASMS Polymers Workshop

Chair – S Rumbelow

Co-chair – Christina Mastromatteo

This year's meeting was run with our new format, consisting of three distinct sections; a workshop, student posters and an open forum. As with previous meetings, attendance held steady with ca 60-70 attendees.

After the introductions and greetings, Steve Rumbelow invited all new attendees to this workshop to stand up and give a brief introduction to themselves. This proved to be a good 'icebreaker' for the ca 10 new attendees!

Prof. Chris Wesdemiotis ran a short workshop starting with a talk on 'New Developments in Mass Spectrometry Analysis and Imaging of Polymers', featuring a number of the research activities of his team at the University of Akron. This included advances in methods for elucidating, macromolecular, structure, sequence and architecture, structural characterization of cross-linked materials and bioconjugates and mass spectrometry imaging of polymer surfaces. This led onto a series of discussions covering the audiences interest in various techniques ranging from ASAP, pyrolysis GCMS and ion mobility MS.

This was followed by a series of short introductions (2-3 min each) by those attendees giving either talks or poster presentations at this conference, primarily from the polymer research teams based at Drexel and Akron Universities. Once again, 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 around potential topics and themes for future workshops, including those that had featured during the workshop and this will be followed up through both the mailing list and the Linked In discussion group.

Finally, the incoming chair Christina Mastromatteo thanked Steve Rumbelow for chairing this workshop for the last two years and welcomed in Jessica Hoskins, who volunteered to act as incoming co-chair. No other nominees were forthcoming, and this was approved by all the attendees. Christina also reminded the workshop attendees that we would welcome volunteers to help with various activities, such as communication (starting with the email list circulated during the meeting) to help develop this interest group's reach and activities further.