

Division of High Polymer Physics

July 15, 1996 Newsletter

Division Councillor Elections

Two candidates have been nominated for the position of DHPP Division Councillor. They are:

E. J. Kramer,
A. J. Lovinger, National Science Foundation.

Brief statements solicited from the candidates appear on the next page of this newsletter. All members of the DHPP are asked to mark their ballot (enclosed with this newsletter) and return it to the Secretary-Treasurer. **Ballots must be received no later than August 23, 1996.**

From the Chair

"There has recently been concern that the Division of High Polymer Physics is lacking involvement in its overall activities by its industrial membership." To address this concern, an ad hoc committee is taking up the matter and will report in early August to the executive committee. At this time, we would like to address the broad implications of this concern without any bias, and thus solicit comments from the membership at large regarding this statement. Please address comments to Bill Prest at Xerox, Bob Bubeck at Dow Chemical or any of the executive committee members who may be convenient to you. They are: Tim Lodge, Eric Amis, Barry Farmer, Andy Lovinger, Ned Thomas, Dave Hoagland, Mark Ediger, Glenn Fredrickson and myself. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Jeff Koberstein

Program

The DHPP Program Chair for the next March Meeting is Ken Shull (Northwestern; Phone: 847-467-1752; Fax: 847-491-7820; E-mail: k-shull@nwu.edu). He solicits your suggestions for (and participation in helping organize) Special Focused Sessions, especially in areas of interest to polymer physicists in industry. He would also welcome suggestions (or volunteers) for Session Chairs.

Reminder: You are urged to submit your abstracts for the March meeting as early as possible to allow ample time for the program to be organized. The DHPP deadline will be the same as for the APS general program - December 6, 1996. (Nominations and abstracts for the Padden Award and Symposium are due November 6, 1996.)

Candidate Statements

The Executive Committee asked each candidate to provide a brief statement providing biographical information and/or indicating any specific items they would like to bring to the attention of the members of the division. Their statements are presented below. The candidates are listed alphabetically.

Ed Kramer

Ed Kramer received a BChE from Cornell and a PhD in Met. and Mat. Sci. from Carnegie-Mellon. He has been on the faculty at Cornell since 1967. His research interests include fracture, diffusion, surfaces and interfaces of polymers.

"Andy Lovinger has been an outstanding Councillor for DHPP. Earlier this spring, by effective lobbying of sympathetic Divisions and a convincing speech in Council, he persuaded the Council to table the motion to make permanent the 3% rule (This is the rule that a Division must maintain 3% of the membership of APS to remain a Division). It is hard to imagine being more effective than he has been but if elected, I will certainly work very hard to maintain the standard he has set. Issues that I think are important are the following:

- 1.) Making sure that we remain a Division. I would continue Andy's campaign to remove the 3% rule.
- 2.) Encouraging more industrial participation in DHPP and in the APS as a whole. This goal is important both for the health of industry in this country and for ensuring that students in the Division will have the opportunity to make contacts at the March meeting that can lead to jobs.
- 3.) Continuing to stress the idea that interesting physics research is possible in nonconventional places, e.g. non-physics departments. It seems to me that DHPP can serve as a model for the entire APS in this regard."

Andy Lovinger

I am very pleased and honored to be nominated for a second term as your DHPP Councillor and to be joined in this election by Ed Kramer. I am certain that, no matter who is elected, the Division will be served superbly. For those Members who may not know me, I am now Senior Staff Associate at the NSF and Director of its Polymers Program. Prior to that I had spent 19 years at Bell Labs (ten of these as Head of the Polymer Chemistry Research Department). I continue to be affiliated with Bell Labs as Distinguished Member of Technical Staff and to conduct research there on structure, morphology, and electroactive polymers.

The Divisional Councillor is the voice of DHPP within the APS Council and

participates in the governance of the entire Society. This voice can be quite effective: For example, at the latest Council Meeting I persuaded the full Council to vote UNANIMOUSLY to reconsider the 3% minimum APS membership required for Divisional status [Ed Kramer and other colleagues also helped behind-the-scenes]. As you know, DHPP is now the ONLY Division with a membership below 3% and is thus threatened to be downgraded to a Topical Group and lose its Council representation. Even though the APS Council has now charged its Committee on Constitution and Bylaws to reexamine this 3% minimum, we should not become complacent. Instead, we must all work together to increase our membership and to make our Divisional programs and activities attractive to a much wider spectrum of students and colleagues in industry and in other disciplines. I urge everyone to vote, to let the DHPP Executive Committee know your thoughts on how we can make our Division more attractive and successful, and -- most importantly -- to sign up at least one new DHPP member!

Membership Have you renewed your APS membership yet? Did you renew your membership in DHPP? Have you signed up a new member yet?

Applications for regular APS Membership and for a *Free* Trial Membership For Students are available on the DHPP Home Page (<http://aps.org>, then select APS Divisions, Sections and Forums and then DHPP) or from the Secretary-Treasurer. Both Graduate students and undergraduate students are eligible for the free membership. **Help the Division solve its 3% problem, once and for all.**

Double the Division! Sign up a friend.

Short Course

The DHPP Short Course, **NMR Methods in Polymer Physics**, will be offered March 15-16, 1997 in Kansas City, MO. It is being organized by Julie Kornfield (Cal Tech).

Fellowship

Members of the Division are invited to submit nominations for Fellowship in the APS. A nomination form and a list of DHPP members who are APS Fellows are available on the DHPP Home Page or from the Secretary-Treasurer. Full dossiers should be mailed to:

Executive Officer
American Physical Society
One Physics Ellipse
College Park, MD 20749-3844

The deadline is **January 15, 1997**. The DHPP Fellowship Committee will review nominees and forward its recommendations to the APS Council, which elects new

Fellows annually at its November meeting. The number of new Fellows is limited to one-half percent of the current membership.

[Andre Kovacs](#) (1920-1995)

[DHPP home page](#)