



July 2007

Call for Papers

The call for papers has been issued for our 31st Annual Meeting to be held in Austin, Texas, February 17-20, 2008. Authors wishing to present a paper or a poster should submit short abstracts of 150 to 250 words electronically to the Home Office at adhesoc@vt.edu by August 15, 2007.

Areas of emphasis for the 31st Annual Meeting include biological and biomimetic adhesion, nano-modified adhesives, particle adhesion, pressure sensitive adhesives, surface interactions, mechanics of biomolecular and cellular adhesion, contact mechanics, friction, scanning probe microscopy and interfaces in electronic systems. If an author wishes to target a specific emphasis with his/her abstract, please indicate this on the abstract. Also, please underline the name of the presenting author and include contact information in the abstract.

Authors will be informed of the status of their submissions by October 15, 2007. Authors of accepted papers must submit extended abstracts (maximum of three pages in length) no later than December 1, 2007. Instructions for preparation of the extended abstracts are found at our website ([Extended Abstract Author Help](#)).

Upcoming 31st Annual Meeting of The Adhesion Society

February 17-20, 2008

Austin, Texas

Ken Liechti

I would like to welcome Adhesion Society members to Austin for the 31st Annual Meeting over the period February 17-20, 2008. This is the first time the meeting has been held west of the Mississippi. Whatever connotations this may have for you, the site selection committee has done a great job in selecting the Austin Sheraton Hotel.

The property is currently undergoing remodeling of the rooms and furnishings, which we should be able to enjoy in February. For those of you who are skeptical of Austin's claim to being the "live music capital of the world," but are open to experiment, the hotel is within easy walking distance of Sixth Street and the Warehouse District, where you'll find quite an assortment of restaurants, clubs and bars. The State Capitol, Blanton Museum, Texas State History Museum, and the LBJ Library are five minute taxi rides away from the hotel. The Texas hill country and six area lakes offer some wonderful hikes and views. The Edwards aquifer gushes out at Barton Springs in central Austin, where you can swim in 65 °F water anytime of the year.

On the technical side, we are planning an interesting conference around John Watts, the recipient of the 3M award. We will also be featuring sessions on biological and molecular

adhesion. The particle, pressure sensitive and structural adhesion technical areas are promoting their usual interests. If you have any new ideas for sessions, please contact me as soon as possible.



Sheraton Hotel, Austin, Texas

STRUCTURAL ADHESIVES DIVISION

Bamber Blackman

Following on from the very successful program of structural adhesives sessions at the Tampa Bay meeting last February, we are again planning an exciting program of sessions in topics relating to structural adhesives for the next annual meeting in Austin Texas in Feb 2008. We plan to run sessions in the following areas:

- Aerospace
- Automotive
- Chemistry
- Mechanics
- *Nano-mechanical characterisation*
- *Environmental ageing –including mechanisms of corrosion*
- Industrial applications

However the actual sessions run will depend on the range of abstracts submitted, so please do contribute short abstracts electronically to the Adhesion Society Home Office (adhesoc@vt.edu) by August 15, 2007. The above list is not exhaustive, so please also

contribute abstracts on other aspects of structural adhesives science, technology and application. Feel free also to contact me if you wish to discuss an abstract submission, chairing a session or any other matters relating to the Structural Adhesives Division program.

With best wishes for a great summer (but don't overlook the 8/15 abstract deadline!)

Bamber Blackman
(b.blackman@imperial.ac.uk)
Chair of Structural Adhesives Division

PIERRE-GILLES DE GENNES

The Adhesion Society joins the worldwide technical community in mourning the loss of Nobel Prize Laureate Pierre Gilles de Gennes. Dr. de Gennes was a recipient of The Adhesion Society Award for Excellence in Adhesion Society sponsored by 3M. The award was given to Dr. de Gennes at the 24th Annual Meeting of the Adhesion Society in February of 2000 “for his contribution to the understanding of molecular mechanisms of adhesion, especially through the notion of connector molecules.” Dr. de Gennes was honored with the following obituary prepared by Linda R. Raber for Chemical & Engineering News (reprinted by permission).

“Pierre-Gilles de Gennes, 74, a pioneer in the field of liquid crystals and recipient of the 1991 Nobel Prize in Physics, died on May 18 at his home in Orsay, near Paris. The cause of death was not reported. In a statement, French President Nicolas Sarkozy described de Gennes as “an exceptional physicist and one of our greatest scientists.”

“De Gennes received the Nobel Prize for his breakthrough work on liquid crystals-substances that have the properties of both liquids and solids-that are now found in products ranging from alarm clocks to computer and television screens. De Gennes was cited by the Nobel Committee “for

discovering that methods developed for studying order phenomena in simple systems can be generalized to more complex forms of matter, in particular to liquid crystals and polymers.”

“De Gennes was born in Paris in 1932 and received his early education at home. He later attended Ecole Normale Supérieure and received a Ph.D. degree in 1957 while working on neutron scattering at the French Atomic Energy Commission (CEA) in Saclay. In 1959, he was a postdoctoral student with Charles Kittel at the University of California, Berkeley. He joined the faculty of the University of Paris, Orsay, in 1961 and started a research program on the physics of solids.”

“In 1968, de Gennes changed the direction of his research toward liquid crystals and was named a professor at the Collège de France in 1971. He soon started a collaborative research project on polymer physics with researchers at the University of Strasbourg and CEA. The joint project became known as STRASACOL. De Gennes was named director of the Ecole Supérieure de Physique et de Chimie Industrielle in 1976.”

“In 1984, de Gennes turned his attention to interfacial problems. His research group defined general laws of wetting and dewetting, explaining how liquid droplets behave on rough and smooth surfaces. In 1989, he began working in the physical chemistry of adhesives and became a champion of soft-condensed matter physics. Fascinated by superglues, he proposed in 1992 that “one day, we might be able to make airplanes with glue instead of rivets, but the problem is that we don’t understand how glues interact on surfaces that receive them.”

In the late 1990s, de Gennes started working on the design of artificial muscles with investigators at the Curie Institute. At the time of his death, he was working on cellular adhesion and brain function.”

“De Gennes was a member of the French Academy of Sciences, the French Academy of Technologies, the Dutch Academy of Arts & Sciences, the Royal Society, the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, and the U.S. National Academy of Sciences.”

