



DIVISION OF POLYMERIC MATERIALS: SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

2017 PMSE Fellow Ceremony

The American Chemical Society Division of Polymeric Materials: Science and Engineering (PMSE) has just completed its process to select a new class of PMSE Fellows for 2017. The following distinguished PMSE members have been chosen:

- Matthew Becker
- Heather Maynard
- Marek Urban

They will be inducted as the seventeenth class of PMSE Fellows at the San Francisco ACS Meeting during the joint PMSE/POLY Awards Reception on Wednesday evening, April 5, 2017. PMSE is pleased to welcome this distinguished group of polymer scientists and engineers to the ranks of fellows.

A short description of their work up to the point of the induction as a PMSE Fellow is on the following pages.



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2017 PMSE Fellow Induction Biographies

2017 PMSE Fellow

Matthew L. Becker
University of Akron



“For outstanding contributions to the field of polymer organic chemistry and the development of novel polymeric materials for regenerative medicine”

Matthew L. Becker is the W. Gerald Austen Professor of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering and The Associate Dean for Research in the College of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering at The University of Akron. He holds appointments in the Departments of Polymer Science, Integrated Bioscience and Biomedical Engineering. His multidisciplinary research team is focused on developing bioactive polymers for regenerative medicine and addressing unmet medical needs at the interface of chemistry, materials and medicine. To date, his group has published more than 120 papers and has 25 patents issued or pending. He is the founder of two start-up companies, 3D BioResins & 3D BioActives. In 2015, Professor Becker was awarded the ACS Publications Macromolecules-Biomacromolecules Young Investigator Award. He earned a B.S. in chemistry at Northwest Missouri State University (1998) and a PhD in organic chemistry under the direction of Professor Karen L. Wooley at Washington University in St. Louis (2003) as an NIH Chemistry Biology Interface Training Fellow. In 2003, Dr Becker moved to the Polymers Division of the National Institute of Standards and Technology for a NRC Postdoctoral Fellowship. He joined the permanent staff as a project leader in 2005 before moving to The University of Akron in 2009.



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2016 PMSE Fellow

Heather D. Maynard

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)



“For outstanding contributions to the synthesis of biohybrid polymeric materials and their applications in medicine and biotechnology”

Heather D. Maynard received a B.S. with Honors in Chemistry from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a M.S. in Materials Science from the University of California, Santa Barbara. Her Ph.D. in Chemistry was awarded from the California Institute of Technology in 2000. She then moved to the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich (ETH), where from 2000-2002 she was an American Cancer Society Postdoctoral Fellow. Dr. Maynard joined the UCLA faculty as an Assistant Professor in August 2002 as the first Howard Reiss Career Development Chair in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry and as a member of the California NanoSystems Institute. She is now a full Professor, Director of the Chemistry Biology Interface Training Program and Associate Director of Technology and Development for the California NanoSystems Institute.

Maynard has been selected as an Outstanding Emerging Investigator by the Journal of Materials Chemistry and has received the Amgen New Faculty Award, NSF Career Award, Seaborg Award for Outstanding Research, the Hanson-Dow Award for Excellence in Teaching, an Alfred P. Sloan Fellowship, and the Herbert Newby Award for Outstanding Research. Maynard is an ACS POLY, Leverhulme, Kavli Frontiers, and Royal Society of Chemistry Fellow and was awarded a Fulbright Specialist Grant for New Zealand. She was also recently selected to be a member of the US Defence Science Study Group. Maynard is on the editorial boards of *Polymer Chemistry* and *Chem* and the editorial advisory boards of the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*, *Biomacromolecules*, *Bioconjugate Chemistry*, *Journal of Polymer Science A Polymer Chemistry*, and *Macromolecular Biosciences*. Maynard's research interests focus on the design and synthesis of biomimetic and biohybrid polymers and hydrogels for applications in protein drug stabilization and delivery.



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2017 PMSE Fellow

Marek Urban

University of Southern Carolina



“For many advances in polymer science and technology, highlighted by innovations in self-healing and anti-microbial materials; for contributions to PMSE”

Marek W. Urban is the Sirrine Foundation Endowed Chair and Professor of Materials Science and Engineering at Clemson University. He received MS in Chemistry from Marquette University, PhD in Chemistry and Chemical Eng. Department from Michigan Technological University, and postdoctoral at Case Western Reserve University. Prior to joining Clemson University in 2013, he was a professor of polymer science at NDSU and USM, where he directed the Materials Research Science and Engineering (MRSEC) as well as Industry/University Cooperative Research (I/U CRC) Centers funded by the National Science Foundation. He is the author of over 350 research publications and patents, author of four books (Wiley, Royal Society of Chemistry, and Oxford University Press) and editor of seven American Chemical Society Advances in Chemistry Series as well as Wiley Handbook on Stimuli-Responsive Materials. His research on antimicrobial polymers and self-repairing polymers has been featured by numerous media, including NY Times, Forbes, BBC, NBC, Discovery Channel, USA Today, Yahoo, many TV and radio stations around the World. Current research efforts focus on understanding molecular level processes governing responsiveness in materials, development of novel polymeric nanomaterials with ‘living-like’ functions, and the design of self-repairing materials that utilize natural sources of energy.