



## DIVISION OF POLYMERIC MATERIALS: SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

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### Chair's Message:

PMSE Colleagues and Friends,

It has been a privilege to serve as the 2019 Chair of the PMSE Division of the American Chemical Society. The Division is committed to being inclusive and serving the needs of its diverse membership. In 2024, the PMSE Division will celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

I have recently joined Duke University as a Professor in the Departments of Chemistry, Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science and Orthopaedic Surgery. Previously, I was the W. Gerald Austen Endowed Chair of Polymer Science and Engineering at the University of Akron. I began my career in the Polymers Division of the National Institute of Standards and Technology. All experiences have been wildly different and this reflects and highlights the widespread interests and topics of research within the PMSE Division. My own research is focused on developing bioactive polymers for regenerative medicine and drug delivery.



PMSE is committed to increasing the level of service that we provide our members and providing a welcoming and inclusive ecosystem for all of its members. The PMSE leadership team is actively searching for ways to provide enhanced opportunities for our members to interact in a way that enhances the sharing of knowledge, highlights networking opportunities and provides career development programming and symposia for the next generation of scientists and engineers. If you have ideas on how PMSE can better serve you, please let us know. As your 2019 Chair, I welcome you to contact me directly ([matthew.l.becker@duke.edu](mailto:matthew.l.becker@duke.edu); 919-681-3812) if you have suggestions on how we can better achieve our mission.

### MISSION

To provide a polymer-based forum for the exchange of technical information and foster interactions in materials science and engineering.

We are always interested in cultivating the next generation of leadership to move our Division forward into the next century. If you are interested in volunteering or getting involved, please do not hesitate to contact me. I have served PMSE in a range of capacities, including 5 years as a Technical Program Chair, 2 years as Treasurer, one year as Chair-Elect, one year as Vice Chair, and in 2019 the Division Chair. PMSE service and membership has provided countless opportunities to meet new people and interact with scientists, engineers and students from around the world. I encourage you to get involved.

One of the greatest benefits that we provide our members is up-to-date, dynamic, and flexible programming at the ACS National Meetings every Spring and Fall. To see what PMSE symposia are currently on the docket, check out our future programming link. This Fall in San Diego, PMSE is hosting 15 symposia with more than 530 abstracts submitted. I hope you find the science you are looking for.

Matthew L Becker  
Professor  
Duke University  
2019 PMSE Chair