

Polymer Science and Engineering at CWRU

Department Of Macromolecular Science and Engineering
Kent Hale Smith Building



CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY EST. 1826

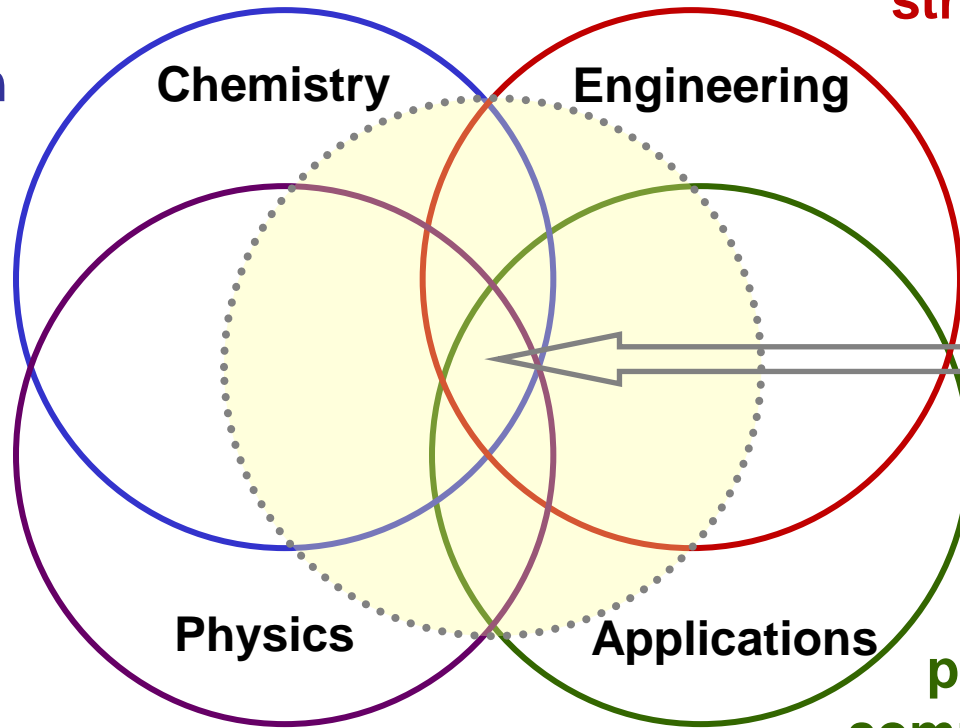
think beyond the possible™



Polymer Science and Engineering

molecular design
methodology development
synthesis
characterization

polymer analysis & testing
processing & rheology
structure/property
relationships



Emerging areas:

*bio
nano
medical
energy*

optics
electronics
modeling/theory
characterization

product design
commercialization
entrepreneurship
industry partnerships



Overview

**Faculty: 414 Full Time (new hires in 2007, 2008, 2009(2), 2012(2), 2014);
4 Active Emeritus**

Active Areas of Research:

Polymer Synthesis, Self-Assembly, Processing & Rheology, Fuel Cells, Optoelectronic Materials, Biomaterials, Simulations, Nanocomposites, Polymer Characterization, Transport Phenomena, Performance Polymers, Failure Mechanics

- **First Ph.D. Programs in Polymer Science and Engineering in U.S.**
- **First ABET-accredited B.S. degree program**
- **Total BS graduates 295: Currently 81 students**
- **Total MS Graduates 375 Currently 10 students**
- **Total PhD graduates 471: Currently 75 students**
- **Postdocs: 25 currently**
- **Ranked in Top Polymer Programs in the US for the last 30 years**



Faculty



Prof. David Schiraldi
Chairman



Prof. Rigoberto Advincula



Prof. Eric Baer



Prof. Liming Dai



Prof. Hatsuo Ishida



Prof. Alex Jamieson



Prof. LaShanda Korley



Prof. Joao Maia



Prof. Ica Manas-Zloczower



Prof. Jon Pokorski



Prof. Stuart Rowan



Prof. Gary Wnek



Prof. Lei Zhu



Prof. Michael Hore



The Undergraduate Program

Mission: To educate and train undergraduate students in the diverse range of Science and Engineering disciplines (and beyond) which will position them to make an impact in the both the Industrial and Academic field of *Polymer Science and Engineering* in the US and beyond.

Philosophies:

- To make an impact in today's polymer community students need to understand a range a fundamental disciplines: Engineering, Chemistry, Physics, Biology

Undergraduate Degree Tracks

Polymer Science and Engineering: Polymer Engineering Track
Polymer Science and Engineering: Biomaterials Track

- Research and Hands-on Experience Enhances Classroom Education

Undergraduate Research Activities

Freshman Research Program (EMAC 125)
Research in Sophomore and Junior Year (EMAC 325)
Senior Project
BS/MS and Coop Programs

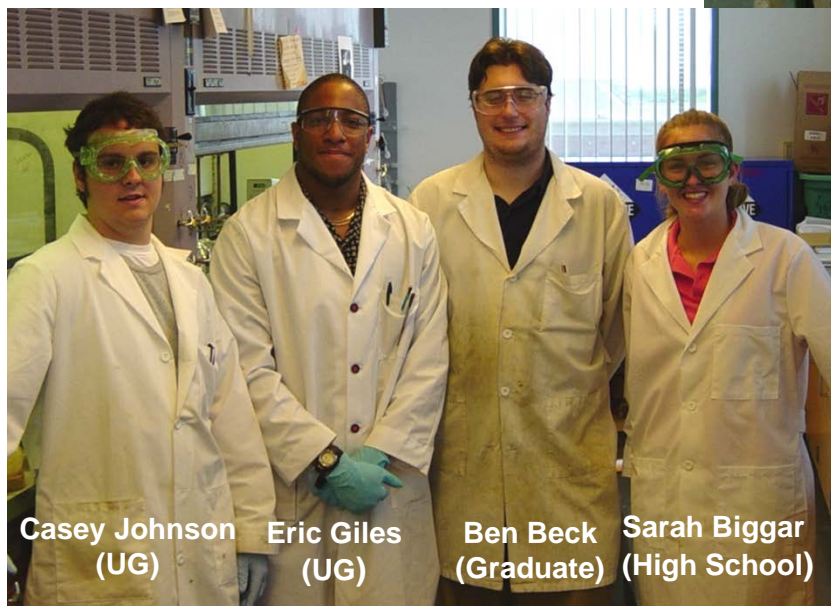
NSF and Industry Funded Summer Research Program (20-25 students/year)



Undergraduate Research

Summer Research Program

NSF REU and Industry Funded
Program
(20-25 students/year)



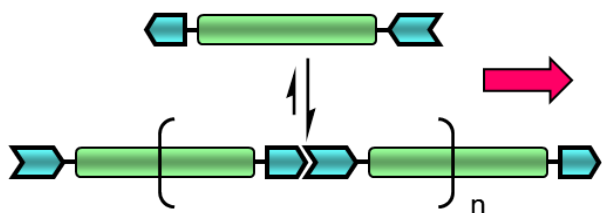
Casey Johnson (UG) Eric Giles (UG) Ben Beck (Graduate) Sarah Biggar (High School)

Work in Research Teams

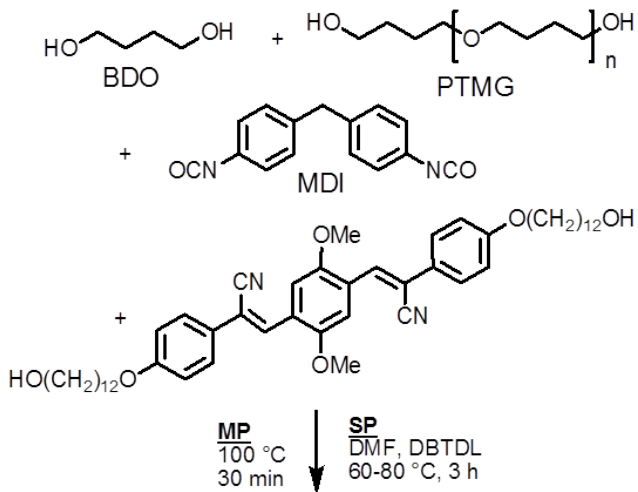
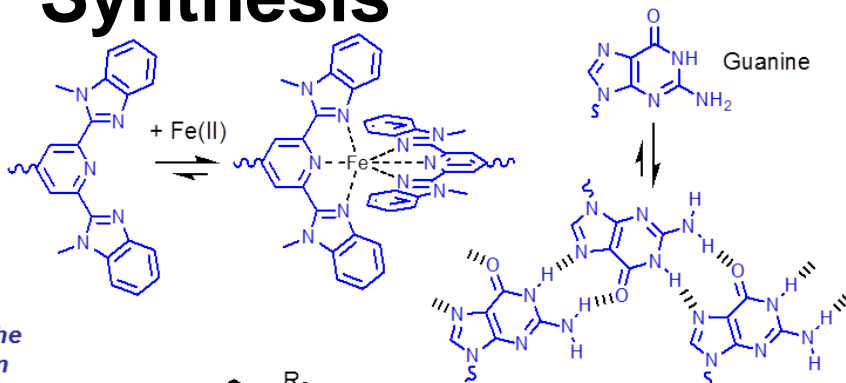
Graduate Student
Senior/Junior Undergraduate
Freshman/Sophomore Undergraduate
High School Student



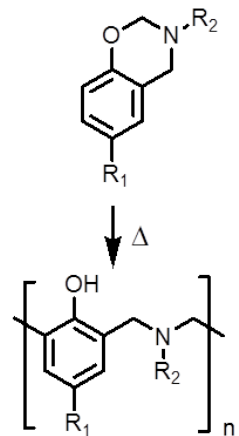
Synthesis



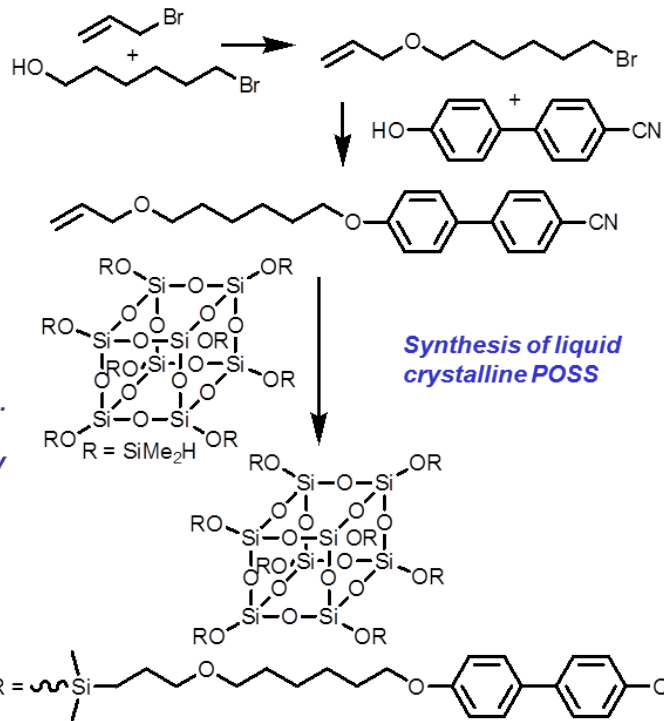
Self-Assembly and Supramolecular Polymerization: The utilization of non-covalent interactions, e.g. hydrogen bonding, metal/ligand coordination, to organize small molecules into polymeric architectures



mechano-responsive thermoplastic polyurethanes
Synthesis of thermoplastic polyurethanes with built-in photoluminescent sensor molecules. These materials are part of a study that explores and exploits a new approach for the design of mechano-responsive polymers



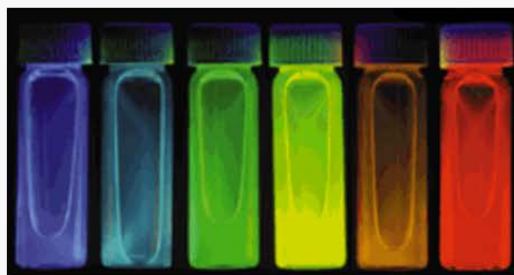
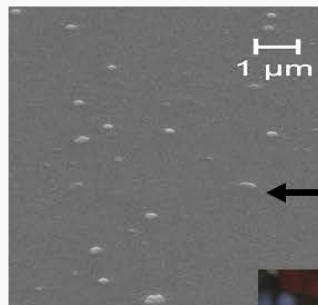
Synthesis of polybenzoxazines. Key attributes of these polymers: low crosslink density but high modulus, high char yield, low water absorption despite many hydrophilic groups, near-zero shrinkage during polymerization



Synthesis of liquid crystalline POSS

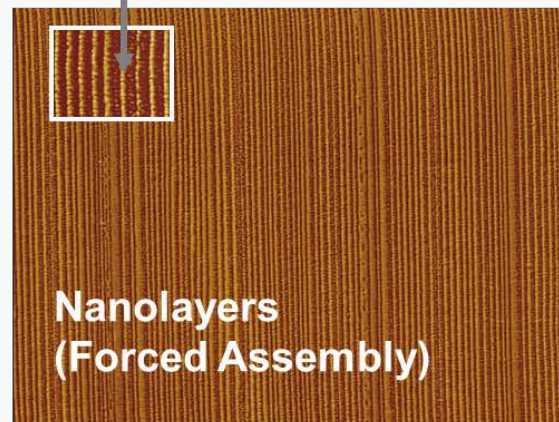


Nanoscience and Technology



Optical Nanoparticles

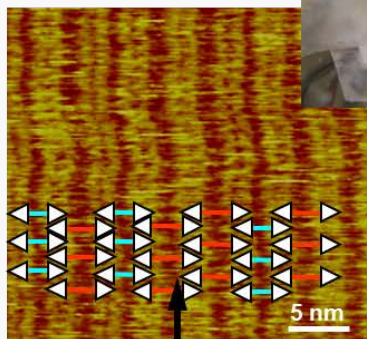
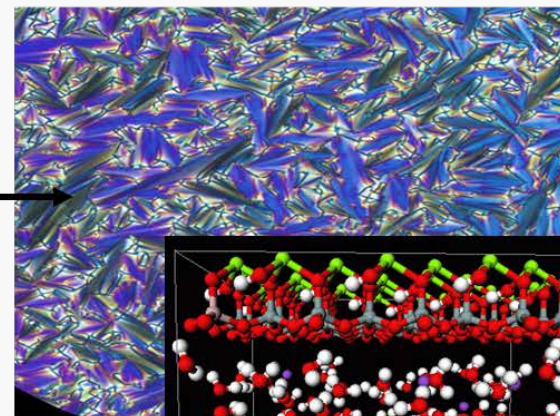
10 nm



Nanolayers
(Forced Assembly)

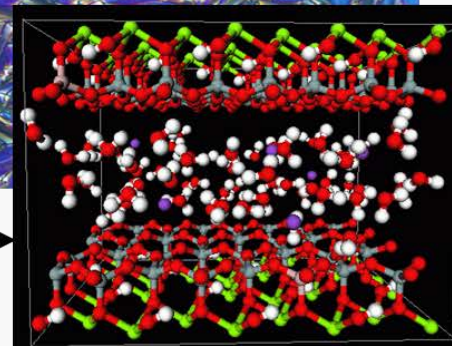


Liquid Crystalline Nanomaterials



Electrospun Nanofibers

Nano-composites:
Improved Mechanical Properties

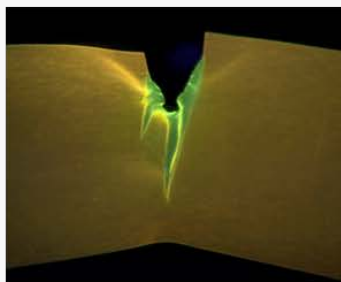
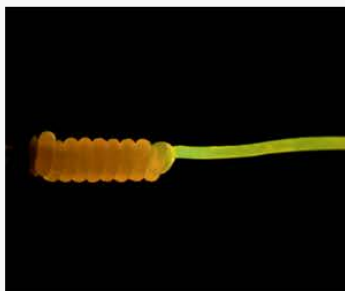
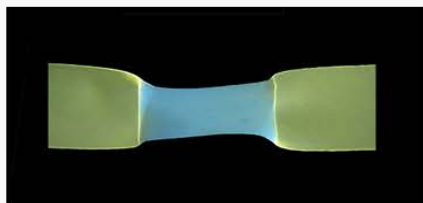


Nanoscaffolds by
Self-Assembly



Responsive Polymers

Integrated Failure Indication; Tamper-Evident Packaging



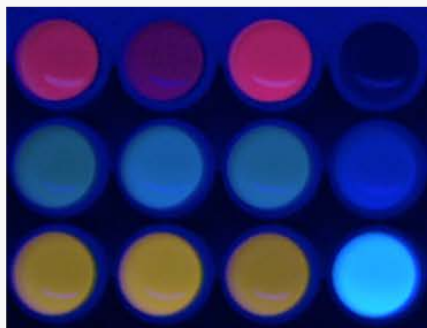
Gas Sensor Materials

No Analyte (EtO)₂PO (o-tolylO)₂PO Et₃N

[4·Eu³⁺]

[3·La³⁺]

[1·Zn²⁺]

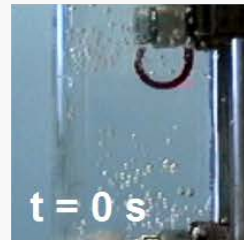


Shear Thinning: Thixotropic

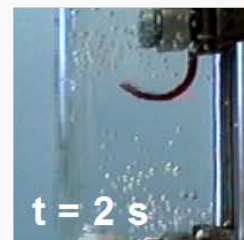


Shape Memory Polymers

Stable Temporary Shape



Heat



Permanent Shape





Biomaterials and Biomimetics

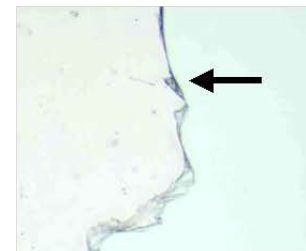
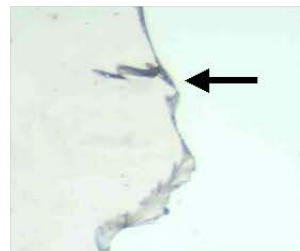
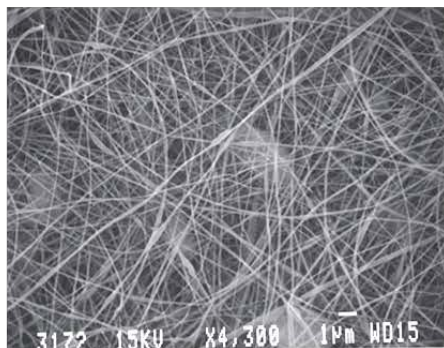


Biomimetic Materials
(Touch-Responsive Sea
Cucumber)

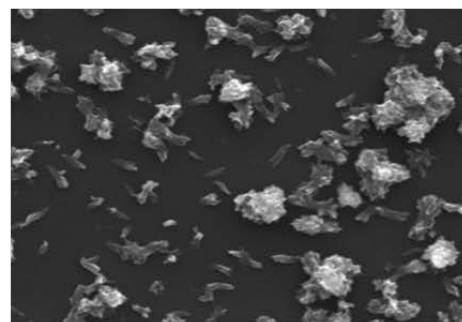


Polymeric Actuators

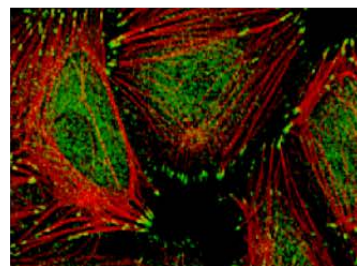
Electrospun
Scaffolds for
Tissue
Engineering



Materials Based on DNA (Next
Generation of Tailored Biomaterials
with Self-Healing Properties)



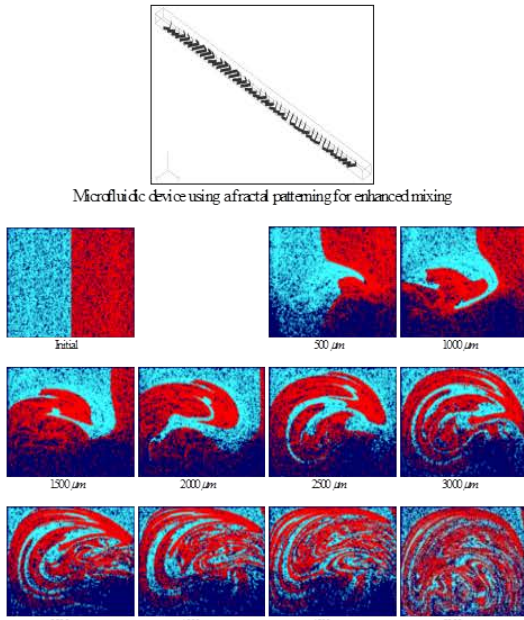
Polymers for
Biomaterialization



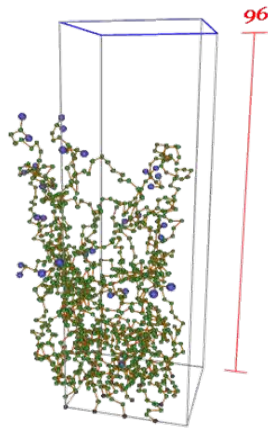
New Polymers to
Control Cell Adhesion
on the Surface of an
Implant



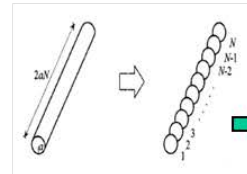
Modeling, Simulation & Processing



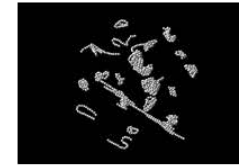
Dynamics of mixing in the channel above as portrayed in ten consecutive cross sections down the channel. 26000 particles were used in the simulation.



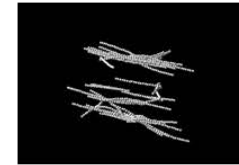
Snapshot of Monte Carlo simulation of polymer brush end-functionalized with divalent ligands interacting with approaching surface decorated with receptor sites.



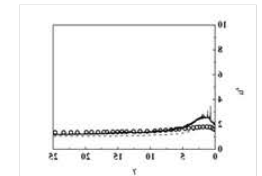
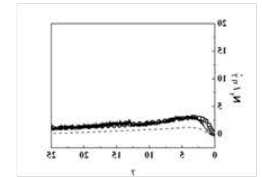
- Intra-fiber interactions
- van der Waals interactions
- Hydrodynamic interactions
- Collision potential



Small flocculation & isolated fibres



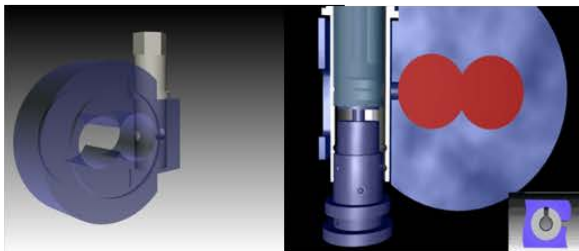
Large flocculation/alignment in the flow direction/percolation



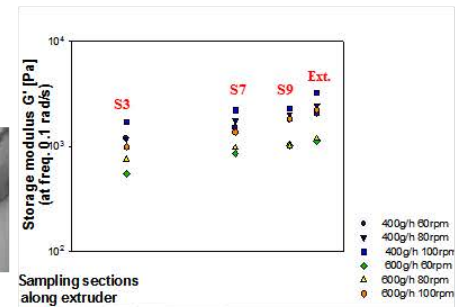
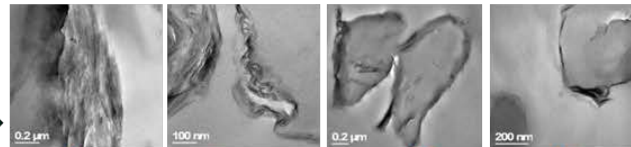
Polymer blending and compounding / On-line monitoring and control of extrusion

Sampling device

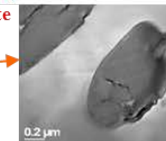
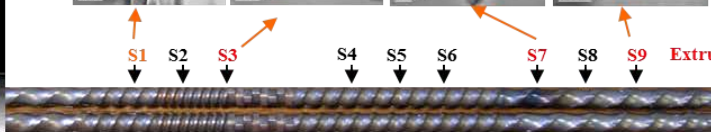
Rotational rheometer



Polymer blends compatibilized with nanoclays

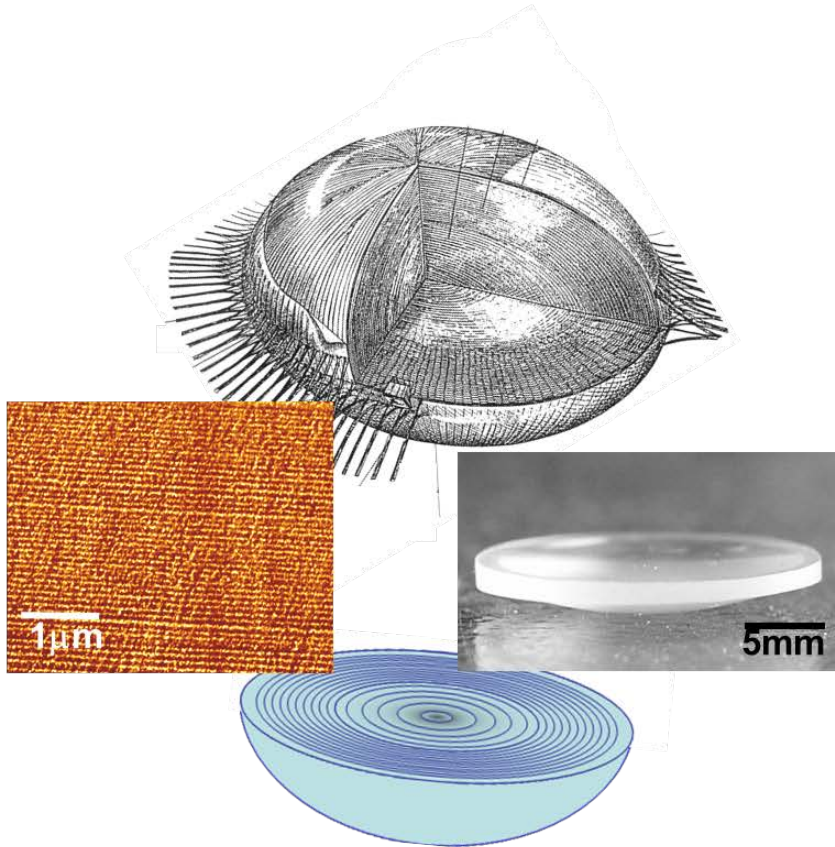


Sampling sections along extruder

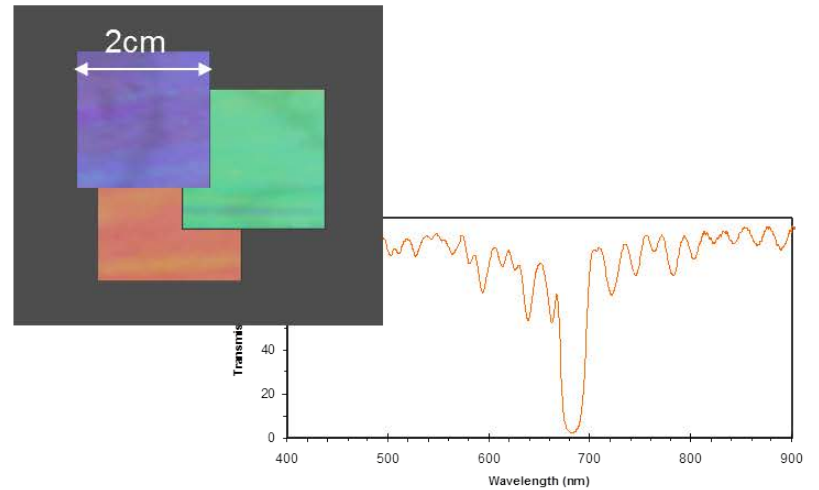




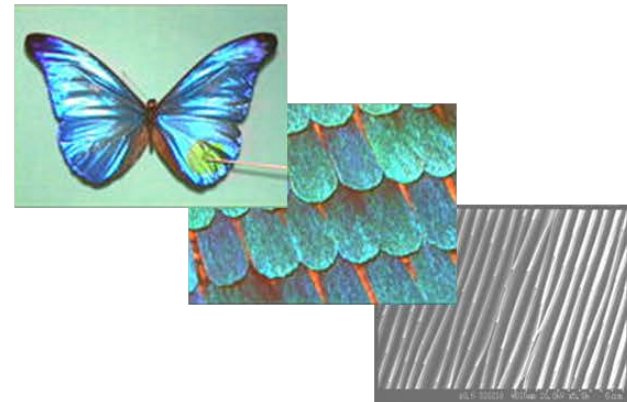
Bioinspiration



A synthetic lens mimics the layered structure and gradient refractive index of the biological lens.



1-Dimensional photonic crystals with narrow reflection bandgap are comprised of many alternating layers of PS and PMMA. They mimic the iridescence of the butterfly wing.





Industry Connections

Extensive Collaboration with Industry

Biopolymers

Materials Development and Design

Mechanical Behavior and Analysis

Physical Characterization

Processing

Rheology

Synthesis

Product Improvement and Enhancement

New Product Development

Technology Commercialization

Partners: Dow

DuPont

Sumitomo-Bakelite Co. Ltd.

3M

BayerMaterialScience

Toyobo Co Ltd.

Kimberly-Clark Co.

Infoscitex

Philip Morris

Goodyear

Boston Scientific

DuPont-Teijin Films

Seksui Chemicals

Aerovox

Alcan

Layered Technologies

Chevron

INVISTA

Voith Fabrics

Hybrid Plastics

Petrobras



Characterization

The Department is fully equipped with state-of-the-art instruments all aspects of polymer characterization

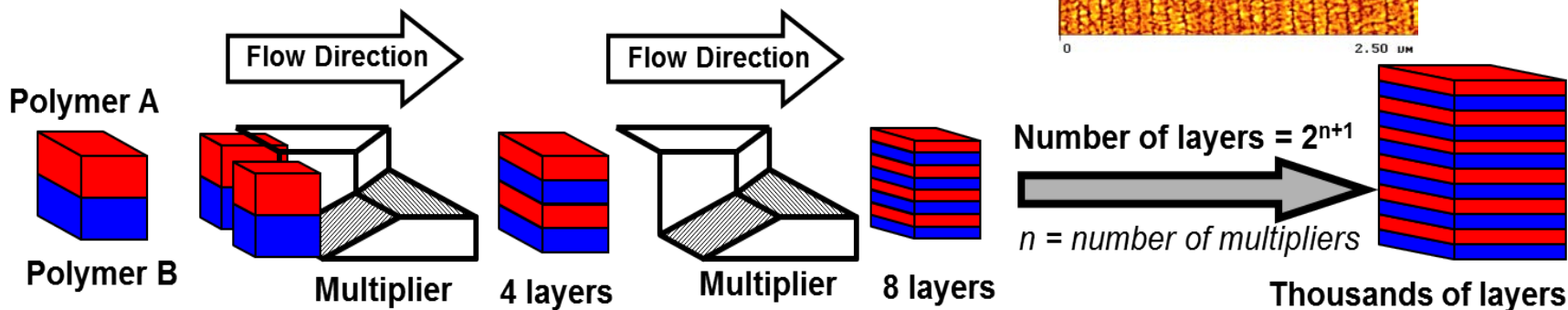
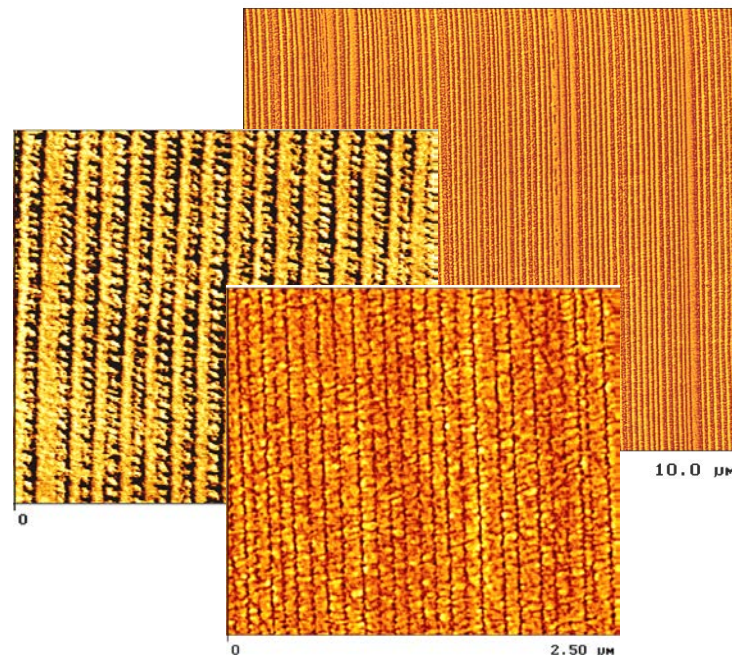
**NMR (solution and solid-state),
X-Ray Diffraction
Mechanical Testing
Thermal Analysis (DSC, TGA, DMTA)
Spectroscopy
GPC
Rheology
Gas Diffusion
Microscopy (Optical, Electron and Atomic Force)
MALDI-MS
Positron Annihilation
Light Scattering
Computer Modeling**



NSF Science and Technology Center for Layered Polymeric Systems

Director: Prof Eric Baer

A multidisciplinary science and education center enabled by a unique microlayer and nanolayer coextrusion technology (forced-assembly)





Center for Advanced Polymer Processing



Supporting and promoting excellence in polymeric materials science and engineering

RESEARCH TOOLS

- Develop state-of-the-art *on-line sensors* that allow multiple rheological, physical, chemical and morphological quantities to be measured along the screw axis of twin-screw extruders;
- Combine with *advanced computational multiscale simulation capabilities* to build physical-chemical-structural models of said systems and processes under realistic conditions;
- Implement new R&D *modular co-extrusion and nano-layering line* with single and twin-screw extruders;
- Use these tools in an integrated way to develop *new advanced and functional multiphase complex materials* or optimize the performance of existing ones.

The collage includes:

- Top left: Laboratory equipment with a robotic arm.
- Top right: Laboratory equipment with a computer workstation.
- Middle left: 3D CAD model of a twin-screw extruder.
- Middle right: Molecular simulation showing polymer chains in cyan and magenta.
- Bottom: A horizontal extrudate with vertical arrows pointing to sections S1 through S9 and the final extrudate. Above S1-S3 and S7-S9 are micrographs showing morphology at different scales (0.2 μm and 300 nm).

Case Macro

Ready for its next 50 years

