

# 2017 POLY Election Statements and Bios

The 2017 candidate information is summarized below. An e-mail will be sent to all voting members containing website and login instructions. If you do not have a current e-mail address on file with us, you will NOT be sent a postcard as in previous years, so please make sure to send your updated e-mail address to Carlee Linkous ([carleel@vt.edu@vt.edu](mailto:carleel@vt.edu@vt.edu))

The 2016 POLY Election was a huge success providing approximately **22.1%** voting-membership participation (879). POLY anticipates a repeat performance in 2017.

## VOTING ONLINE IS AS EASY AS 1-2-3!

1. Watch for an e-mail sent from [elections@vote-now.com](mailto:elections@vote-now.com), containing your individual password On October 16th.
2. Once you receive your e-mail, go online to complete the election ballot
3. If you do not receive an e-mail by October 20th or for additional questions, please contact the POLY Business Office at [KATHYL@vt.edu](mailto:KATHYL@vt.edu) or call 540-231-3029.

**Elections Open - October 16th to November 16<sup>th</sup>**

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DSM Engineering Plastics



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NASA Glenn Research Center

### Candidates for Treasurer



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Eastman Kodak Company



**Derek Patton**  
University of Southern Mississippi

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Oklahoma State University



**Kathryn Uhrich**  
University of California, Riverside

### Candidates for Alternate Councilor



**Johan Foster**  
Virginia Tech



**Allan Guymon**  
University of Iowa

**Please notify the POLY Business Office if you do not received your POLY Election login notice.**  
**[KATHYL@VT.EDU](mailto:KATHYL@VT.EDU) or 540-231-3029**



# Candidates for Vice-Chair



## Travis Baughman DSM Engineering Plastics

**STATEMENT:** I am honored to be a candidate for Vice-Chair of POLY, and I look forward to the opportunity to continue my many years of service to the Division as a member of the Executive Committee. As Vice-Chair, my mission will focus on returning tangible value to all

members. From newer members to seasoned professionals, I hope to engage the Executive Committee to create and steer new initiatives with a modern value proposition that resonates throughout our membership. As an eclectic volunteer organization, this is not an easy task, but I plan to continue to devote my enthusiasm and drive to this effort recently illustrated in my service leading the Industrial Advisory Board (IAB) as Co-Chair (2010-2015) and now Chairman (2016-present). The IAB has allowed me involvement in many aspects of POLY's mission by supporting and engaging our entire membership and the Executive Committee to create and foster unique Division-wide initiatives. During my tenure, the IAB has supported undergraduate and graduate students in the form of travel grants and increased industrial interaction through discussion panels and networking events. Additionally, we have maintained our industrial focus by reviving the Industrial Polymer Scientist Award and inaugurating the Young Industrial Polymer Scientist Award during the 2017 ACS National Meeting in Washington, D.C. I hope that you will support me in this election.

**BIOGRAPHY:** Travis Baughman graduated from Clemson University in 2001 with a B.Sc. in Polymer, Fiber & Textile Chemistry. He then moved to the University of Florida to join Prof. Ken Wagener's lab culminating in a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry in 2006 as a NASA Florida Space Grant Fellow. His thesis focused on olefin metathesis polymerizations applied as tools to create various precise and pseudo-random (co)polymer structures to further the understanding of structure-property relationships within this unique class of designer polyolefins. Dr. Baughman then moved to the Netherlands to join Prof. E. W. "Bert" Meijer's lab where he developed a class of supramolecular hydrogels designed as modular scaffolds for in vivo applications. As of 2008, he remained in the Netherlands where he started at DSM in the central research unit and has since moved from the lab to product development and into research & technology management for the Engineering Plastics Division. He recently relocated to California in a commercial role actively engaging the consumer electronics market. In March of 2016, Dr. Baughman was inducted as a Fellow of the ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry in recognition of his scientific achievements and long-term commitment to POLY.



## Michael A. Meador NASA Glenn Research Center

**STATEMENT:** It's truly an honor to be nominated for POLY Vice-Chair! I have been a POLY member for 26 years and have been privileged to serve POLY as Member-at-Large for 6 years and as a co-organizer of several workshops

and symposia, including "The Journey to Mars" at the Fall ACS National Meeting. I understand the value of being a POLY member and am grateful for the impact that it has had on my career. However, there are many POLY members who do not have the opportunities that I have had to participate in POLY symposia and workshops. For those members, I believe that POLY has an obligation to provide other benefits to maximize the value of their membership. I applaud new POLY programs to address this, such as the recently established webinars. If elected, I plan to continue to explore other approaches to meet this need. For POLY members who do attend symposia, I would like to collaborate with other ACS divisions and engage our members to develop new topics to enhance the impact and visibility of POLY symposia. Over the years, POLY has benefitted from many outstanding Chairs who have worked to implement their ideas and make POLY a better and stronger division. I am excited about the possibility of building upon that legacy and applying my ideas, energy, and enthusiasm to serve POLY and its membership. I respectfully ask for your vote.

**BIOGRAPHY:** For most of his 33-year NASA career, Mike Meador has devoted his efforts to planning, advocating, and leading R&D in polymeric materials and nanotechnology. This includes serving as the Chief of the NASA Glenn Polymers Branch (1988-2011), Manager of the Game Changing Development Program's Nanotechnology Project (2011-14), and Chair of the 2012 and 2016 Nanotechnology Roadmap Teams. From 2014-16, he served in the Obama Administration as the Director of the National Nanotechnology Coordination Office in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. Meador has a BA and PhD in chemistry from Ithaca College and Michigan State University, respectively. He is an Adjunct Professor at Clemson University and has been a member of external advisory boards for polymer and materials science programs at several universities. He has co-authored more than 80 journal articles, book chapters, and conference proceedings on research in advanced polymeric materials, photochemistry, and nanotechnology. He is an ACS Fellow and the recipient of NASA Medals for Equal Employment Opportunity and Exceptional Service.



# Candidates for Treasurer



## Christine Landry-Coltrain Eastman Kodak Co.

**STATEMENT:** I have been privileged to serve our Division members as an Alternate Councilor since 2009. I have also been a co-organizer/co-chair for the Excellence in Graduate Polymer Research symposia at the spring ACS meetings

for the past several years, where I have interacted with many students who embody the future of our Division. As the webmaster for the POLY Division (since 2009), my goal is to facilitate the sharing of information between the ACS, the POLY Division, and its members. In this function I hope to serve the entire POLY membership by ensuring pertinent information is readily available. My tenure as Program Chair for POLY (2007-2008) was an extremely enriching experience, as has been the last several years where I have met and interacted with so many exceptional people devoted to the field of polymers. I have represented the voice and needs of the POLY membership with the ACS, participating in the Advisory Board for ACS endeavor to replace the PACS abstract submission system with the current MAPS system, and serving as MPPG rep. As Treasurer, I would be delighted to continue to serve the members of a Division that is so critical in providing leadership, opportunities for collaboration, communication, and synergy in an ever expanding field of macromolecular chemistry and materials. I believe that my industrial research experience and past involvement in POLY will guide me in the fulfillment of these responsibilities.

**BIOGRAPHY:** Christine Landry-Coltrain is a Senior Research Associate at the Eastman Kodak Company in Rochester, NY, and a 31-year member of the Kodak Research Labs, a POLY Fellow, and an ACS Fellow. Her primary research interests have been in understanding structure-property relations in multicomponent polymeric systems. This thrust has led down paths exploring polymer-polymer, polymer-dye, polymer-lubricant interactions, polymer-inorganic oxide nanocomposites, conductive inks, and porous structures in areas related to many imaging and printing product platforms. Her current interests reside in the area of functional and 3D printing. Christine received her B.Sc. in Chemistry (1980) from McGill University and Ph.D. in Analytical/Macromolecular Chemistry (1985) from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is a member of ACS (POLY and PMSE), APS, and CIC (Chemical Institute of Canada), and has been active in the ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry as Program Chair, Alternate Councilor, Webmaster, MPPG representative, and symposia organizer. She has co-authored 35 publications, authored a book chapter, and is co-inventor on over 80 US Patents.



## Derek Patton University of Southern Mississippi

**STATEMENT:** I am excited to accept the nomination to run for Treasurer of the Division of Polymer Chemistry. As an ACS POLY member since entering graduate school in 2000, I continue to be impressed with the outstanding accomplishments of

the Division—led by a dedicated group of volunteers that devote their time to ensure the Division and its benefits remain member focused. I have been the recipient of these benefits (programming, networking, workshops) over the last 17 years and I am always excited for the opportunity to give back to POLY in the form of service. I have had the privilege of serving as POLY Treasurer for the past three years—an opportunity that has allowed me to work with an inspiring group of colleagues on the POLY Executive Committee. Together, we have worked to ensure that POLY remains the professional home for polymer scientists from academia, industry, and government.

In cooperation with the exceptional staff in the POLY Business Office, I will continue to work diligently to manage the Division's primary sources of revenue (ACS allocations, membership dues, workshop overhead, and grants), while ensuring that the Division meets its responsibilities in financial reporting and disbursements. As Treasurer, my primary goal is to ensure that POLY operates in a fiscally sound manner and uses funds responsibly to move POLY forward on our missions and strategic plans. In the last three years as Treasurer, I can confidently state that POLY achieved this goal in a financial environment that continues to tighten. Additionally, we have used POLY investments to drive strategic activities, such as “endowing” the four major POLY awards, that help stabilize POLY finances in the long term.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my service to the Division as Treasurer, and I would be honored to serve POLY in this role for a second term. I have the energy, passion, and experience to serve POLY as Treasurer, and I ask for your support and vote in this effort.

**BIOGRAPHY:** Derek Patton earned his B.S. (Chemistry, 2000) from Jacksonville State University and his Ph.D. (Chemistry, 2006) at the University of Houston. In 2006, he moved to NIST (Gaithersburg, MD) as a NRC Postdoctoral Fellow in the Polymers Division. He joined the faculty in the School of Polymers and High Performance Materials at the University of Southern Mississippi in 2008. In 2014, Derek was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. Derek has been the recipient of the NSF CAREER Award (2011), the USM Junior Faculty Research Award (2011), and the College Faculty Research Award (2015). Derek currently serves as POLY Treasurer and as Faculty Advisor to the USM POLY/PMSE Student Chapter. In the past, Derek has been involved in the POLY publicity/outreach committee and as a POLY symposium organizer.

# Candidates for Councilor



**Frank Blum**  
Oklahoma State University

**STATEMENT:** From POLYED to cutting-edge workshops, POLY activities keep its members at the forefront. Councilors provide the link between ACS and the Division and continuity for the POLY leadership. As ACS Councilor for 30 years representing a Local Section and

POLY, I have recently worked to ensure that chemistry foundation courses contain polymer topics, served on the Society Committee on Budget and Finance, and the Council Policy Committee. I continue to manage the POLY-L listserv for Division members. I have also recently been appointed to a task force to review Society Governance.

Formerly, as POLY Chair, Secretary, and Councilor, I have made a difference for our members and our profession. I helped change the Society's Constitution and Bylaws providing more support to divisions and local sections. I spearheaded the 2000x2000 membership drive, facilitated electronic communications (e-mail lists, www, and Polymer Preprints) and brought new volunteers into Division leadership roles.

I am honored to be a Councilor candidate and I would be pleased to continue to serve the membership for another term.

**BIOGRAPHY:** Frank Blum obtained a BS/MS (1976/1977, Eastern Illinois) in Chemistry and a PhD (1981, Minnesota). Frank was an Assistant Professor of Chemistry at Drexel Univ. (1981–1986) and an Associate through Curators' Professor of Chemistry at Missouri-Rolla (Missouri S&T). In 2010, he moved to Oklahoma State U. and is currently Harrison I. Bartlett Chair and Regents Professor. He served as Department Chair until 2016. Frank co-authored over 240 publications and about 325 presentations on adsorbed polymers, nanomaterials, surface behavior and NMR spectroscopy. He was the recipient of two Exxon Educational and Alcoa Foundation Awards. He was awarded the POLY Distinguished Service Award and Special Service Award. Frank is a Fellow of the ACS.

**POLY Service:** Vice-Chair, Chair-Elect, Chair, Past-Chair (1997–2000); Secretary (1990–95); Assistant Editor, "Polymer Preprints" (1986–90); Webmaster (founding, 1995–2009); Electronic Discussion List (POLY-L) Facilitator (1993–pres.); Organizer: several symposia/workshops especially related to polymer surfaces, interfaces and hybrid materials.

**ACS Service:** Councilor, POLY (2011–16), South Central Missouri Section (1987–2010). Task Force on ACS Governance (2016–present); Publications (1996–2001), Consultant (2007–9); Divisional Activities (1999–2002), Chair (2000–2002), Consultant (2008–10); Committee on Nominations and Elections (2005–10), Chair (2009–10); Advisory Board for Industrial Relations (2000–2001); Council Policy Committee (2000–2002, 2009–10, 2012–17); Society Budget and Finance (2003–4, 2012); Younger Chemists, Consultant (2012); Materials Secretariat, Secretary-General Elect (1995), Secretary General (1996–97).



**Kathryn Uhrich**  
University of California,  
Riverside

**STATEMENT:** It's an honor to be nominated as a councilor representing the Division of Polymer Chemistry (POLY). As an active researcher, educator, entrepreneur and administrator, I would bring multiple perspectives in representing POLY in

ACS. ACS sets the benchmark for scientific societies: it oversees journals that publish cutting-edge research, reaches out to younger and soon-to-be scientists, and supports excellent research via grants. To ensure POLY's continued success, I would focus on two areas necessary to advance science and technology in the United States: inclusive excellence and professional development.

Many women are contributing to polymer science and pushing forward the boundaries of science, yet are not recognized for their excellence. As a POLY councilor, I would work through ACS to evaluate the process and motivation for rewarding research excellence that reflects the diverse community of ACS members.

At the local and national level, we need to provide opportunities for students to organize symposia, write grants to support the symposia, and even write press releases to promote the presenters.

**BIOGRAPHY:** Dr. Kathryn Uhrich is currently Dean of the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences at University of California, Riverside. She earned a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from Cornell University and BS in Chemistry from the University of North Dakota. Dr. Uhrich's research links chemistry with the life sciences and engineering disciplines to create new materials and design new devices in which polymers can be used to increase health and extend life. Dr. Uhrich has been issued more than 70 U.S. and international patents, and her work has spawned several start-up companies. Dr. Uhrich's innovative research in polymer chemistry and biomaterials has trained nearly 200 scientists. Prior to UCR, Dr. Uhrich served as Dean of Mathematical and Physical Sciences at Rutgers. She is a Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors, Controlled Release Society and the American Chemical Society.

Member ACS since 1990. Member, Canvassing and Selection Committee, ACS National Award Selection Committee, Washington, DC; 2014–17, 2017–20; Member, Canvassing and Selection Committee, Kathryn C Hach Award for Entrepreneurial Success, 2013–2016; Member, Award Committee for Encouraging Women into Careers in the Chemical Sciences, 2002–05. *North Jersey Section:* Councilor, 2005–07. *POLY Division:* Workshop Co-organizer, "Polymers in Medicine and Biology", POLY 2005–15; National Programming Chair, 2006–08; Representative, Biotechnology (BTEC) Secretariat, 1999–2008; Advertising Chair, *Polymer Preprints*, 1997–2001.



# Candidates for Alternate Councilor



**Johan Foster**  
Virginia Tech

**STATEMENT:** I am honored to be nominated as a candidate for Alternate Councilor. As an Alternate Councilor, I look forward to helping the POLY Executive Committee to deliver the best product and services to POLY's membership, in order to

maintain POLY as a one of the preeminent divisions within the ACS.

I've enjoyed participating in ACS POLY since 2010. During this time, I have co-organized/co-chaired several technical sessions at ACS National Meetings, on areas such as "Advanced functional biopolymers and biomaterials," "Supramolecular polymers: from structure to advanced functionality," "Protein-like structure and activity in synthetic systems," "Next generation smart materials: structure, function and application," and "Responsive nanostructures and nanocomposites." As these show, I have been an active member in POLY programming, and relish the opportunity afforded me. I think the opportunities available in POLY, and to the general chemistry population, go beyond ACS technical programming, and include everything from networking and professional development meetings, workshops, and short courses.

I am excited for the opportunity to serve POLY as an Alternate Councilor by supporting POLY Councilors which represent POLY on an ACS level and to serve on assigned committees to bring members outstanding benefits.

**BIOGRAPHY:** Johan is an Associate Professor and the Digges Faculty Fellow in the Materials Science and Engineering Department at Virginia Tech. He is a member of the Macromolecules Innovation Institute (MII) at Virginia Tech, and the Virginia Tech Center for Sustainable Nanotechnology (VTSuN).

Johan has over sixty peer-reviewed papers, an H Index = 24, and an i10-Index = 43. He has given over 40 invited talks, been a session chair at twelve international symposia, organized six international conference symposia, and was co-chair and organizer of TAPPI NANO 2016. He is a member of three peer-reviewed journal editorial boards. He is faculty advisor for the Journal of Undergraduate Materials Research (JUMR). He is an expert for the European Research Commission (ERC), Marie Curie Innovative Training Networks (ITN), and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), ISO/TC 229 WG 2. He is also the official departmental evaluator at the University of Ghana, Department of Biomedical Engineering (2017-19).



**Allan Guymon**  
University of Iowa

**STATEMENT:** It is an honor to be nominated to serve as an Alternate Councilor in the Division of Polymer Chemistry. As a POLY Program Chair for 4 years, former General Papers Chair, and organizer of several symposia over the past 20 years, I understand the challenges in the

Division, and am qualified to serve and represent POLY and its members in ACS. At the same time, I will serve with the Executive Committee in enhancing opportunities and developing programs that will increase the value of POLY to industry, government, academia, and especially, its members. I believe that I have a unique perspective and a clear view of the challenges we face and also see significant opportunities for the future. POLY must remain the premier location to present world class research from the international polymer community. I will work closely with the Program Committee to increase the value of our General Topics symposia to enhance graduate and undergraduate participation in our meetings and membership in the division. I will also work with the Workshops Committee to facilitate enhanced industrial attendance and engagement through focused symposia and expanded use of tutorials. With quality programming, and continued emphasis on our workshops and innovative student programming, POLY will remain one of the largest and most active divisions in ACS. I believe that I have the requisite vision, enthusiasm, and leadership to make this happen. I thank you in advance for your support.

**BIOGRAPHY:** Allan Guymon is currently Chair of the Department of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering and Sharon K. Tinker Professor at the University of Iowa. He has served in several positions in POLY including Programming Chair (2002-2006), General Papers Chair, and Polymer Preprints Assistant Editor. He has organized 7 symposia at national meetings in POLY as well as symposia at MRS, Pacificchem, and AIChE. He received BS degrees in both Chemistry and Applied Mathematics at Weber State University, and an MS and PhD in Chemical Engineering at the University of Colorado in Boulder. After graduation, he joined the faculty in the Polymer Science Department at the University of Southern Mississippi and has been at the University of Iowa for the past 15 years. He has published over 95 refereed journal articles in addition to several patents. He currently serves as co-director of the NSF REU program in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology and as director of the Industry/University Cooperative Research Center on Photopolymerization. His research focuses on using photopolymerization to form nanostructured materials from self-assembled systems, and utilizing reaction behavior to produce unique properties in polymer thin films and biomaterials.