

● **Nordic Rheology Conference 2016**
Helsinki, Finland, May 30 – June 1, 2016

Between May 30th and June 1st, rheologists of the Nordic countries and worldwide, academia and industry alike, gathered for the 25th Nordic Rheology Conference (NRC) in Helsinki, Finland. The meeting marked a special occasion being the first time the NRC was held together with the Nordic Polymer Days (NPD), as a combined event. Both conferences enjoy a strong tradition in the Nordic region with the NRC hosting its 25th annual meeting and the NPD its 53rd. The event was organized by the joint efforts of the University of Helsinki, Aalto University, Åbo Akademi University and VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland. Credit on behalf of the NRC goes to the NRS board members whereas for NPD it goes to the Society for Wood and Polymer Chemistry in Finland. Sami-Pekka Hirvonen, University of Helsinki, coordinated the preparations of the event.

The 25th Nordic Rheology Conference featured H. Henning Winter, University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA, and Jan Vermant, ETH Zürich, Switzerland, as plenary speakers. The plenary presentations were held jointly and thus participants to the NPD also had the opportunity to enjoy the insights into some of the latest advances and current challenges in rheology. The invited lectures addressed unresolved problems and open questions of gelation rheology and the rheology of complex fluid-fluid interfaces, respectively. A short rheology course preceding this year's Nordic Rheology Conference was given by the invited speakers on the topics of "Advanced rheometric methods: from superposition to light scattering" (J. Vermant) and "Application of rheology to various soft materials" (Horst Henning Winter).

This year's NRS meeting enjoyed 45 oral and poster contributions, with participants from 13 different countries across 4 continents. The engaging presentations were divided into 5 sessions, namely General rheology and rheometry, Food, pharmaceutical and bio-rheology, Particulate and fibrous dispersions, Non-Newtonian fluid mechanics and flow simulation and a separate session dedicated to the poster presentations. The contributions to the NRC comprise the 24th volume of the Annual Transactions of the Nordic Rheology Society and are available online on the society's website (nordicrheologysociety.org). In addition, the NPD also included a special session on Polymer rheology. Two prizes for young scientists were awarded: to Tina Borke, University of Helsinki, for the best oral presentation and to Siegfried Werner, Friedrich Alexander University Erlangen-Nuremberg, for the best poster presentation. The scientific sessions were complemented in the exhibition area by a diverse and strong participation by companies with interest in the field of rheology, Anton Paar Nordic, Biolin Scientific, Hosmed, Instron, Malvern Instruments Nordic AB, Norlab/Postnova, OleiniTec and TA Instruments. Accompanied by a perfect weather setting, participants were welcomed with a dinner reception at the City Hall, within the picturesque cityscape of the old Helsinki. The engaging scientific topics and exhibitions were rewarded the following evening with an exclusive ceremony held at the Old Student House in the very heart of Helsinki.



From left to right: Figure 1: Hans Henning Winter during his plenary lecture entitled "Mysterious Gelation Rheology – More Questions than Answers". Figure 2: Jan Vermant during his plenary lecture entitled "Rheology of complex fluid-fluid interfaces". Figure 3: Coffee, tea, cookies, old and new friends, and engaging rheological conversations at the conference venue, University of Helsinki.

This is an extract of the complete reprint-pdf, available at the Applied Rheology website
<http://www.appliedrheology.org>

NORDIC RHEOLOGY SOCIETY (NRS)

On Tuesday, May 31st, NRS members gathered for the NRS Annual Business Meeting. This year the meeting was centered on the NRS elections. The following officers received their mandate for 2016-2020: President Johanna Aho; Secretary: Olli-Ville Laukkanen; Treasurer: Johannes Thunberg; ICR representative: Mats Stading; Past President: Stefania Baldursdóttir; Danish Representative: Peter Szabo; Danish Deputy Member: Henrik Olsen; Finnish Representative: Sanna Haavisto; Finnish Deputy Member: Martina Lille; Norwegian Representative: Catherine Taylor Nordgård; Norwegian Deputy Member: Bjørnar Lund; Swedish Representative: Marcus Schmidt; Swedish Deputy Member: Mikael Rigdahl; which together comprise the board of the Nordic Rheology Society. The Icelandic Representative and Icelandic Deputy Member positions remain vacant for the time being. Complementary, the following officers will support the activities of the society: Editor of the Annual Transactions of the Nordic Rheology Society, Roland Kádár; NRS Election Committee Johan Wiklund, Arild Saasen and Tapio Saarinen; auditors of NRS: Anni Karppinen and Sami Hietala. Regarding departed board members the NRS is grateful for their service to the society, with special thanks to Jón Elvar Wallevik for his long-term contribution in the NRS Board as

the Icelandic Deputy Member, and his valuable and strong involvement in the organization of three Nordic Rheology Conferences (2004, 2009 and 2014). The new NRS Board is looking forward to working with all NRS members for the continuing advancement and promotion of rheology and its applications. Participants and the board of the Nordic Rheology Society are grateful to the local organizing committee and the sponsors of the event for their warm hospitality and excellent organization of the meeting.

For 2017, the NRS is preparing for another special meeting. The Nordic Rheology Conference will be organized together with the Annual European Rheology Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark. See you in Copenhagen!

Acknowledgments: Mats Stading and Sami-Pekka Hirvonen are credited for the photographic artwork and Mats Stading and Olli-Ville Laukkanen for proofreading the manuscript.

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Figure 4 (left above): Participants enjoying the conference dinner at the Old Student House. Figure 5 (right above): Newly-elected president of the Nordic Rheology Society, Johanna Aho, addressing the participants at the closing of the NRC and NPD. Figure 6 (left below): NRC officers present at the NRC in Helsinki. From left to right, front row: Roland Kádár, Mikael Rigdahl, Catherine Taylor Nordgård, Olli-Ville Laukkanen and Johanna Aho; Back row: Mats Stading, Johannes Thunberg, Henrik Olsen, Stefania Baldursdóttir and Sami Hietala. Figure 7 (right below). Ole Hassager announcing the 2017 NRC meeting to be held together with the Annual European Rheology Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark.

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