Day 1: Wednesday January 28th, 2026
Location: Corwin Pavilion, UCSB

8:45 am	Opening Remarks by College of Engineering Dean Umesh Mishra	
Session Chair: Angela Pitenis		
9:00 am	Professor Grace Han	Photoswitching for Energy Storage and Release: From Concept to High Energy Density Fuels
9:30 am	Katie Shaffer	Deciphering Structure from Blurred Interfaces with Neutron Reflectometry
10:00 am	Break	
Session Chair: Vojtěch Vlček		
10:30 am	Professor Frank Bates	What to do with Plastics?
11:00 am	Jerrick Edmund	Impact of Charge Placement on Polymer Blend Compatibilization
11:30 am	Professor Simon Billinge	Synthesis: A Graph of Unfortunate Events?
12:00 noon	Lunch	
Session Chair: Javier Read de Alaniz		
1:30 pm	Devon Callan	Modeling the Reversible Copolymerization of Degradable Polymers
2:00 pm	Komal	Locking Local Motion with Diels–Alder Chemistry: Hard and Soft Material Design
2:30 pm	Break	
Session Chair: Chris Bates		
3:00 pm	Professor Charlotte Williams, Oxford	**Cheetham Lecture:** Insights into Selective Polymerization and Depolymerization Catalysis to Prepare Block Oxygenated Polymers
4:15 pm	Posters and Reception	

Day 2: Thursday January 29th, 2026
Location: Corwin Pavilion, UCSB
A Symposium Celebrating Nobel Laureate Alan Heeger's 90th Birthday,
co-organized with the Center for Polymers and Organic Solids at UC Santa Barbara

8:45 am	Opening Remarks by MLPS Dean Shelly Gable and Alan Heeger	
Session Chair: Thuc-Quyen Nguyen		
9:00 am	Professor Sir. Richard Friend, Cambridge University	Spin Radical Semiconductors
9:20 am	Professor Yong Cao, SCUT, China	Novel Optoelectronic Polymers and Devices
9:40 am	Professor Jean-Luc Bredas, University of Arizona	Bulk-Heterojunction Organic Solar Cells: Thirty Years Later
10:00 am	Break	
Session Chair: Andrea Carlini		
10:30 am	Dr. Peter Heeger, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center	Translating Immunology Research to Improving Kidney Transplant Outcomes
10:50 am	Professor Zhenan Bao, Stanford University	From Conducting Polymers to Skin-Inspired Electronics
11:10 am	Professor Guillermo Bazan, NTU	Conjugated Oligoelectrolytes: A Versatile Platform for Membrane Modifications
11:30 am	Professor David Heeger, NYU	Neural Circuit Theory
12:00 noon	Lunch	
Session Chair: Renaud Demadrille		
1:30 pm	Professor Yongfang Li, CAS	Narrow Bandgap Organic Acceptors for Organic Solar Cells
1:50 pm	Professor Rene Janssen, Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands	On Polymers and Perovskites – A Journey of Chemistry and Physics
2:10 pm	Professor Christoph Brabec, FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany	Discovering Functional π-Conjugated Materials Tailored to Applications
2:30 pm	Break	
Session Chair: Grace Han		
3:00 pm	Professor Natalie Stingelin, Georgia Tech	Navigating the Dopant:Host Phase Space to Rationalize Chemical Doping of Semiconducting Polymers: A Journey from Excitons, Polarons to Trions
3:20 pm	Professor Steven Kivelson, Stanford University	From Solitons in Polyacetylene to Spinons in a Quantum Spin Liquid
3:40 pm	Professor Jian Pei, Peking University	Light-triggered Regionally Controlled n-Doping of Organic Materials
4:00 pm	Professor Serdar Sarciftci, Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria	Solar Energy Conversion using Organic, Conjugated Materials: From Photovoltaics towards Solar Fuels
4:20 pm	Professor Kwanghee Lee, GIST, Korea	Next Generation Photovoltaics for BIPV Applications
4:40 pm	Professor Fred Wudl	Closing remarks