

MAINZ- Summerschool on Polymer Synthesis in „Kloster Kirchberg“ (31.03-04.04.08)



Kloster Kirchberg is a place where culture and nature are perfectly combined. The former dominic monastery, founded in 1237, is placed idyllically on the top of a forested hill between Black Forest and Swabian Alb. Since 1958 the monastery belongs to the “Berneuchner Fellowship” and can be used as center for retreat and conferences.

After arriving and having lunch (always opened with a common prayer) the first session about Controlled Radical Polymerization was given by Dr. habil. P. Theato (Uni-Mainz). The next day started with a lecture from Dr. H. Schlaad (MPI-Golm) dealing with Stimuli-responsive Polymers, followed by a talk on Mini-emulsion Polymerization held by Prof. Dr. K. Landfester (MPI-Mainz) and was finished with a poster session. On Wednesday Dr. M. Klapper (MPI-Mainz) reported about Metallocene Polymerization.

In the afternoon students as well as lecturers started a hiking tour to Haigerloch for visiting the atom cellar where Heisenberg developed the first nuclear reactor in 1945. The small museum is placed in the cellar below the church of the castle Haigerloch.



On thursday two talks were given: in the morning from Prof. Dr. R. Zentel (Uni-Mainz) about LC-elastomers and Polymeric Actuators and in the afternoon from Prof. Dr. B. Coughlin (MPI-Mainz) about Inorganic-organic hybrid Polymers. The final session on Friday morning with the topic Conjugated Polymers was presented by Prof. Dr. K. Müllen (MPI-Mainz).

While each individual session was closed with two short student talks about their current research projects, the days ended with a cosy get-together (Prof. Zentel: “socializing”) having beer and/or wine and talking to each other also beyond science!