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**Creating an IUPAC project**

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A full list of current Macromolecular Division projects can be obtained from the Division Website (see above) and the Division positively encourages new projects from all members of the international polymer community. Projects must be of global significance and meet certain criteria. The formal process for setting up an IUPAC project can be found at [http://www.iupac.org/projects](http://www.iupac.org/projects).

It is strongly recommended that those considering projects should first discuss matters with the Division Committee Member responsible for the generic area of the project, or with the Division President, Bob Stepto (robert.stepto@umist.ac.uk).

The advantages for leading or participating in an IUPAC project include:

- Satisfaction in fulfilling a need for the international community
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- Publications with high citation rates
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scientific communication, for patents, etc. The way that polymers and copolymers are presently named originates from the work of the Macromolecular Division. Ordinary IUPAC polymer nomenclature is not complex: the correct source-based name for polystyrene is polystyrene. The current terminology and nomenclature work is related to modern-day polymers and their properties (e.g. Definition of Basic Terms Related to Polymer Liquid Crystals, Pure Appl. Chem., 2002, 74, 493). On-line versions of the publications on macromolecular terminology and nomenclature can be accessed readily through the Macromolecular Division Website (see above).

**Characterization**

The Division’s projects on the characterization of polymers and processes involve the global collaboration of scientists and technologists from industry, universities and research institutes in tackling a wide range of topics of immediate significance and importance. The resulting publications are widely cited and used. Broadly, the areas of activity are:

**Structure and Properties of Commercial Polymers** (e.g. Rheology and Morphology of Phase-Separating Polymer Blends, Macromolecules, 2001, 34, 1416).


**Education**

The Macromolecular Division’s education projects are pioneering and have a worldwide impact. Their emphasis is to spread polymer education into economically disadvantaged countries. Current and recent examples of education projects are:

- **Moscow** – preparation of a distance (web-site) learning course in polymer science.
- **South Africa** - school and course on polymer properties (joint with UNESCO).
- **Prague** – general postgraduate course in polymer science (joint with UNESCO).
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**Conference Sponsorship**

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\texttt{Prepared by R.G. Gilbert <gilbert@chem.usyd.edu.au>, 2003.}
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**IUPAC MACROMOLECULAR DIVISION**

www.iupac.org/divisions/IV

The International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) is a scientific, international non-governmental and objective body addressing global issues involving chemical sciences. IUPAC, to ensure the timely and effective fulfilment of its role in the international scientific and technical community, has undergone major structural changes over recent years to a project-driven system. IUPAC comprises eight Divisions: Physical, Inorganic, Organic, Macromolecular, Analytical, Chemistry and the Environment, Human Health and Nomenclature. In addition, there are three Operational Standing Committees, concerned with broad issues, namely, Chemical Research Applied to World Needs (CHEMRAWN), Chemistry Education, and Chemistry and Industry. The Macromolecular Division, in addition to managing its own projects, collaborates with these Committees and with the other Divisions.

The activities of the **MACROMOLECULAR DIVISION** include:

**Terminology and Nomenclature**

Using the correct and unambiguous names and terms for polymers and their properties is extremely important for general, legal and