

## PREFACE

**T**his special issue of the **Journal of Polymer Engineering** is the collected papers of the International Symposium on Hybrid Materials and Processing (HyMaP 2008) which was held in Busan, Korea during October 27 - 29, 2008. The symposium was organized by the National Core Research Center for Hybrid Materials Solution supported by the Korea Science and Engineering Foundation. Over 500 oral and poster papers from industry and academia have been presented in the symposium.

The main themes of the symposium were the preparation and fabrication of hybrid materials where the specific characteristics of the conventional materials such as ceramic, metal, and polymer are simultaneously realized in one by chemical hybridization (ceramic/polymer/metal) or by incorporating the two or three of them in various scales (nano/micro/macro) with different microstructures (crystalline/amorphous/void) along with new fabrication processes of external fields (plasma, laser, electromagnetic, ultrasonic).

Among the symposium papers related to polymer hybrids, collected papers are published in this special issue of JPE. These include polymer-polymer hybrid, organic-inorganic hybrid, sol-gel process, foaming and various fabrication processes related to the hybrid materials. It is hoped that the materials included in this special issue are useful for those who are interested in the development and application of hybrid materials.

Guest Editors

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