

## Department of Chemistry Gassman Lectureship in Chemistry October 7 - October 10, 2013



Professor Craig Hawker Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry University of California,

Santa Barbara

Research activities focus on synthetic polymer chemistry and nanotechnology, integrating fundamental studies with the development of nanostructured materials for advanced properties and functions in microelectronics and biotechnology.

Website: http://www.chem.ucsb.edu/people/academic/craig-hawker

## Lecture #1 4 p.m. Monday, October 7, 2013 100 Smith Hall (reception following 117/119 Smith Hall)

## Materials Inspired by Marine Organisms

With a limited set of building blocks, nature provides design rules and material challenges that are relevant for applications ranging from ultra-high strength composites to novel camouflage systems. The key to further growth in this area is the translation of these concepts to the much richer range of building blocks that can be prepared synthetically. Using marine organisms as inspiration, novel hydrogels, adhesives and photonic systems have been prepared that offer a number of advantages when compared to the natural materials.

Professor Craig J. Hawker, Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS), is the Alan and Ruth Heeger Chair of Interdisciplinary Science and a Professor in the Materials, Chemistry and Biochemistry departments at the University of California-Santa Barbara. He is currently director of the California Nanosystems Institute, co-director of the Materials Research Laboratory and founding director of the Dow Materials Institute. Professor Hawker is actively involved in a range of companies, serving on the Scientific Advisory Boards of Intermolecular, Relypsa and Trilypsa Inc. Craig has received a number of awards for his work including the 2013 American Chemical Society Award in Polymer Chemistry, the 2012 Centenary Prize from the Royal Society of Chemistry, an Arthur C. Cope Scholar Award (2011) and the DSM: International Performance Materials Award in 2010. Professor Hawker has been honored with election to the Royal Society as well as being named a Fellow of the American Chemical Society and the Royal Society of Chemistry.

Regents Professor Paul G. Gassman died in April 1993, at the age of 57. He was internationally know in the chemical community, and left behind a legacy of achievement. During his career, he served as mentor and adviser to 85 doctoral and master's candidates as well as dozens of postdoctoral associates and undergraduate students. Numerous awards, honors, and honorary degrees were bestowed in recognition of his contributions to research and his service to the scientific, professional, and university communities. Some of these awards include election to the National Academy of Sciences (1989) and to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1992); the James Flack Norris Award in Physical Organic Chemistry (1985); Arthur C. Cope Scholar Award (1986); and the National Catalyst Award of the Chemical Manufacturers Association (1990). He served as president of the American Chemical Society in 1990. He was co-chair of the organizing committees of the National Organic Symposium (1991) and the National Conferences on Undergraduate Research meeting (1992), on the University of Minnesota campus. It was his wish that a lectureship be established to bring distinguished organic chemists to the Department of Chemistry. We are proud to present this lecture series in his honor.

