

EDITORIAL

N α PI: A Journey to Innovation and Solidarity in New Materials Research

The inaugural issue of *Nanomaterials and Polymers Innovations (N α PI)*, the official *Diamond Open-Access Journal* of Nepal Polymer Institute (NPI), the National Adhering Organization to the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), holds special significance as its publication marks the 80th auspicious birthday of **Professor Dr. Goerg Hannes Michler**, a pioneering scientist whose outstanding contributions have profoundly shaped the fields of polymer science and nanostructured materials.

Professor Michler's scientific legacy spans several decades and encompasses seminal work in polymers, nanostructured polymers, semicrystalline polymers, and structure–property correlations. He is particularly renowned for his groundbreaking contributions in elucidating the relationships between morphological features of homogeneous and heterogeneous solid polymers, gels, and blends and composites, and their micromechanical deformation mechanisms. His work has significantly advanced our understanding of how nanoscale and microscale structures influence the macroscopic mechanical properties of polymeric materials.

A hallmark of Professor Michler's research is his unique and innovative use of electron microscopy, especially advanced and *in situ* techniques, to determine micromechanical properties of materials subjected to deformation. His contributions in constructing and designing materials based on micromechanical insights derived from electron microscopy have set benchmarks in the field and continue to influence contemporary materials research worldwide.

Beyond his scientific achievements, Professor Michler's passion for microscopy and education is truly remarkable. He has been actively collaborating with his contemporaries, students, and young researchers to establish strong foundations in microscopy, extending this effort to include even school students and enthusiastic beginners. Through these efforts, he has inspired generations of scientists and fostered a deep appreciation for materials characterization and microscopy across diverse communities.

This special issue of *Nanomaterials and Polymers Innovations (N α PI)*, the journal's inaugural issue, is guest edited by Professor Michler's former students and is dedicated to honoring his exceptional scientific contributions, mentorship, and enduring influence. We gratefully acknowledge the support of the *POLY-CHAR International Polymer Characterization Forum* for the journal and warmly thank Professor Michler for his inspiring address at the **10th Microsymposium on Applied Sciences (Nano/Bio) - 2025**, held to celebrate his birthday and to mark the public release of this inaugural journal issue. On this occasion, we extend our heartfelt wishes to Professor Goerg H. Michler for good health and a continued active and inspiring life ahead.

May 19, 2025