



## Macro Group UK Medal for Contribution to UK Polymer Science 2009



This year's award has been made to **Prof. Tony Ryan** (University of Sheffield) for his outstanding contribution to the UK polymer community. Tony has been at the forefront of the international development of polymer science for almost two decades. Initially, his research programme was chiefly focused on understanding the phase transitions and processing of polymeric materials using in situ techniques such as small-angle x-ray scattering, rheology and FT-IR spectroscopy. Much of this activity has involved block copolymer self-assembly (micelles, gels and, more recently, vesicles). Tony has published more than two hundred papers in refereed journals and his work is highly cited (his H index is 38). He has written a text book on polymer processing and edited three other books. He has mentored more than thirty five PhD students through to their graduation and maintains a keen interest in their subsequent careers. He is a named inventor on ten patents and is the technical director of a University of Sheffield start-up company (FaraPack Polymers). Tony also reaches out across non-scientific disciplines such as art and design and he has collaborations with the internationally-renowned artist Helen Storey and the celebrated designer Sebastian Conran. Tony also contributes to the broader polymer science community and engages with science policy at the national and international level, amongst which he has worked tirelessly to promote science to millions of schoolchildren both in the UK, and also in Japan and South Korea, through his celebrated 2002 Royal Institution Christmas Lectures on Materials Science.

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