Dear InterPore friends,

I have the privilege to be part of the organization committee for InterPore2020. As an organization, we do not have experience with organizing online conferences; however, some in our community do. Manish Kumar shares his experience organizing an online conference and reflects on its success. We’re partnering with professionals to make sure that all the technical aspects are covered properly. Meanwhile, Alberto Guadagnini and I are calling for your help with the social side of online conferencing. “There’s a lot to like about virtual conferencing,” as noted in a recent article by Nature.

Furthermore, the InterPore Foundation has launched a new student competition on face masks. A good cause and a fantastic opportunity for graduate students to start building an international network. Senior researchers: Please notify your students!

All the best,
Matthijs de Winter
Editor-in-Chief
InterPore News

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InterPore2020 Online

The 12th Annual InterPore Meeting will be held for the first time in the digital realm. As an integral part of any conference, the ability to make new connections and build existing networks is one of our top priorities. This must also be met with a streamlined approach to presenting multiple sessions across various tracks. Our top goal is to provide a conference which informs and engages participants as much as any face-to-face meeting.

Main features of the conference will be as follows:

- We have chosen the platform Whova to host our conference. More details on ‘how to’ will be provided soon.
- All feature presentations will be pre-recorded, available during as well as a few days before and after the conference.
- There will be multiple one-hour sessions of Questions and Answers for each minisymposium, distributed over three time blocks: 9am to 12pm, 2pm to 5pm, 6pm to 9pm (all CEST). This allows for participants from a wide range of time zones to attend the conference at their preferred time.
- There will be no poster presentations except for the three invited poster presentations. So, all contributions will be treated as orals.
- Keynote & invited lectures will be live, recorded together with Q&A. Opening and Closing sessions, Award ceremony, and all live sessions will be recorded (as long corresponding speakers allow that) and will be made available to all participants.
- Short courses originally scheduled for InterPore2020 are postponed towards later this year. More information will follow.

Join us for fascinating lectures, engage with fellow researchers from across the globe and discover cutting-edge exploration of porous media.

We look forward to welcoming you online! And feel free to distribute the flyer (7.8 MB) around to colleagues!

Please contact us for comments and questions here.
Organizing an online conference: Experience speaking

How are online conferences organized? How can we make sure the technical aspects will not fail? Can everyone join? Is it interesting? Will we miss social activities, and how can we replace them?

These are typical questions in this new era. Manish Kumar from the University of Texas organized the North American Membrane Society (NAMS) 2020 meeting, had a few sleepless nights, and the NAMS had twice the number of participants as expected! Read all about it in his contribution.

The social side of online conferencing

While the world is still experiencing the COVID-19 pandemic and also in our community we are mourning our loved ones or comforting those affected, it has become clear that we need to stand united and care about each other.

We still strive to do what we love: advance porous media research and knowledge! As part of the organizing committee of InterPore2020, we are strongly convinced that our community is best served by an online conference as an alternative to postponing our Annual Meeting. We feel the need to stay in touch with friends and colleagues, feeling their warmth, sharing common research interests and being united in seeking and developing new opportunities to thrive.

As the program takes shape, we encourage you to experience innovative and exciting solutions to imprint the future of our meetings. Likely, these will also play a role as part of the larger picture framing the future of upcoming meetings of many societies worldwide!

The possibly most challenging aspect of an online conference is making the most from the opportunity of having informal meetings, socializing and enjoying a variety of entertaining activities together. Think about last year’s marathon (only 5 km! and a lovely event!) and choir concert. Being at home does not imply we cannot meet in many diverse ways! Just picture in your mind a variety of exciting possibilities such as visiting an online museum, virtual races (look here and here), online games, or relaxing by simultaneously viewing a movie “together”. You can even savor a meal together! While connected
with your mobile device on the dining table, you can share the feeling of breakfast, lunch and dinner across the globe!

But… we need help! Are you creative, full of ideas and sufficiently familiar with online activities, please contact us and work with us on the social side of online conferencing.

Alberto Guadagnini and Matthijs de Winter

Conference Grant Program: Apply now for InterPore2020!

Applications for conference grants are still being accepted!

We are pleased to announce that InterPore Foundation for Porous Media Science and Technology (InterPore Foundation) would once again like to offer a significant number of conference grants to students (50 in total), as well as to scientists from academic institutions from countries with lower- or middle-income economies, as defined by the World Bank (20 grants in total). These grants include the waiving of the conference fee of the now online InterPore2020 conference.

Please send the full application package to Karolin Weber by Monday, July 6.

Look here for more details regarding the application.

InterPore Awards

Call for nominations: Rien van Genuchten Early-Career Award of Porous Media for a Green World

Nominations for this award are being accepted now. The awardee should be able to participate in the next physical InterPore meeting (current time line towards this meeting is yet unclear).

Deadline for submission of complete nomination package is Monday, 27 July 2020. Please notice that this deadline was postponed because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please click here for detailed information on the award and the nomination requirements.
InterPore Foundation Competition: Student Research on Face Masks

InterPore Foundation invites proposals from graduate students on innovative ideas to design and/or improve face masks against airborne bacteria and viruses. The proposals will be reviewed by a panel of experts who will rate them on the basis of 1) intellectual novelty, 2) functionality, 3) practicality, and 4) cost effectiveness. The winners of the top two proposals will receive €1500 and €1000, respectively, and they will be invited to present their PhD research at the next InterPore conference in Edinburgh, UK, 31 May till 03 June 2021. InterPore Foundation will cover their registration fee and accommodation in addition to the prize money.

The deadline for proposal submissions is 1 August 2020.

Details can be found here.

Call for papers: 2021 SPE Reservoir Simulation Conference

1–3 March 2021, Galveston, Texas, USA
Take this opportunity to expand on the latest advanced solutions, technologies, and processes of reservoir simulation. By discussing and sharing your expertise with other technical professionals, you help enhance the overall knowledge, best practices, and developments in this sector of the industry.

The full list of topics and submission guidelines can be viewed on the Call for Papers page.

Please be sure to submit your paper proposal by **30 June**.

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**Book promotion: Nanothermodynamics. General Theory**

*Dick Bedeaux, Signe Kjelstrup, Sondre K. Schnell*

The world of small systems challenges standard knowledge. Can we use classical thermodynamics? The answer to that is no. This book aims to expand on and demonstrate Terrill Hill’s groundbreaking theory of nanothermodynamics (1962). Nanothermodynamics is very different from classical thermodynamics and relevant for the description of fluid transport in nanoporous media. As soon as the system’s surface energy is sizable compared to the bulk energy, we need to consider small system effects. Scaling laws are presented which help to describe the small system over a range of sizes and to understand the large system limit better.

Publisher: PoreLab
ISBN: 978-82-69187 (PoreLab), 978-82-691871-1-3 (printed version)
Paperback: 20 Euros
E-book: free! For a copy, please contact Dick Bedeaux

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**Promote your Publication**

**Ionic liquid dynamics in nanoporous carbon: A pore-size- and temperature-dependent neutron spectroscopy study on supercapacitor materials**

*Mark Busch, Tommy Hofmann, Bernhard Frick, Jan P. Embs, Boris Dyatkin, Patrick Huber*

Ionic liquids imbibed in nanoporous carbons are promising hybrid materials for electrochemical energy storage, conversion and harvesting. These functionalities crucially depend on the ionic mobility in the...
pore space. Here, we demonstrate that quasielastic neutron scattering, specifically the so-called fixed energy window experimental technique, is particularly suitable for fast access of the confined ionic liquid’s dynamic landscape as a function of pore-size and temperature. Compared to the bulk, we find reduced self-diffusion mobilities. However, despite this slowing-down, the temperature range of the liquid state upon nanoc confinement is remarkably extended to much lower temperatures, which is beneficial for potential technical applications of such liquid-infused porous solids.

Physical Review Materials 4, 055401
Corresponding author: Patrick Huber

InterPore Members, do you want to promote your publication to the community? If so, please submit your highlight to newsletter@InterPore.org. Clearly indicate which of the authors is an InterPore member (or the institute with an Institutional Membership). Note that we will not review the entries nor does InterPore endorse the published work. Furthermore, we publish on a “submitted first, published first” basis. The highlighted publication should be no older than 6 months (available online).

The highlight should be short (500 characters) and contain an illustration. Please note that we offer this opportunity exclusively to InterPore members. If you would like to become a member, please have a look here.

**InterPore Calendar**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>31 August - 4 September 2020</td>
<td>The 12th annual InterPore meeting (online)</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 2020</td>
<td>The Hellenic National InterPore Chapter meeting (Athens, Greece)</td>
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<td>1-2 October 2020</td>
<td>The German Chapter meeting (Stuttgart, Germany)</td>
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<td>26-28 October 2020</td>
<td>The French Chapter meeting (Strasbourg, France) (flyer)</td>
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<td>2 November 2020</td>
<td>The Benelux Chapter meeting (Enschede, The Netherlands)</td>
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<td>23-25 November 2020</td>
<td>The Australian Chapter meeting (Perth, Australia)</td>
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<td>Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>31 May - 3 June 2021</td>
<td>The 13th annual InterPore meeting (Edinburgh, UK)</td>
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<tr>
<td>15-21 May 2022</td>
<td>The 14th annual InterPore meeting (Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA)</td>
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**Imprint**

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Articles and news items on the study and characterization of porous media, especially when relevant to other types of porous media, are welcomed for publication in this newsletter, issued twice a month.

Find us on: [ ] [ ] [ ]

**Editors**

Matthijs de Winter (Editor in Chief)
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Lars Bilke (Production Officer)
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