

Maxwell Robb



Graduate Institution: University of California

Location: Santa Barbara, CA

Graduate Discipline: Materials Chemistry

Hometown: Aurora, CO

Research Interests:

I am currently investigating a new synthetic methodology that utilizes orthogonal click chemistries for the construction of dendritic macromolecules. This new strategy allows for the rapid and highly efficient preparation of an array of functional dendrimers starting from readily available and inexpensive starting materials. A related chemistry is being investigated for the preparation of novel hyperbranched dendritic architectures. I am also exploring the self assembly of block copolymers to form polymer nanoparticles with confined microphase-separated morphologies. These unique nanoparticles show outstanding potential as catalysts and in controlled drug delivery systems and various energy applications.

About me:

I graduated from the Colorado School of Mines with a B.S. in Chemistry in 2009. As an undergraduate student I researched new synthetic methods for the preparation of high temperature polymeric materials. My interest in polymer science led me to pursue my Ph.D. at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) where I joined the group of Prof. Craig Hawker. I have been awarded the Regents Special Fellowship by the University of California, the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, and recently the Phi Lambda Upsilon Award by the Chemistry and Biochemistry Department at UCSB. I am involved with the Graduate Students for Diversity in Science – a graduate student group at UCSB that organizes outreach events and guest lectures that aim to promote diversity and encourage scientific careers for people in underrepresented groups. After graduate school and postdoctoral study, I plan on pursuing a career in teaching and academic research. Aside from science, my passions include scuba diving and traveling.



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