

Madam, Sir,

The **International Sol-Gel Society** gathers in its **network about 1600 specialists in the sol-gel area** from around the world. An increasing number, today **more than 250, of researchers and engineers are members of ISGS** and take part in the development of the Society.

Since 2003 the ISGS promotes knowledge exchange, shares know-how and tries to increase the dialogue between academia and industry in the field of sol-gel. The instrumentation for this goal are an interactive website (<http://www.isgs.org/>), the Journal of Sol-Gel Science and Technology, and the organization of conferences, summer schools, workshops. Publications, a periodic newsletter, technology news, book reviews, advertisements of job offers, prizes and awards are other means to encourage education and to support young researchers.

Members use to meet regularly at International Sol-Gel Conferences (biennial meeting taking place each time in a different country) or at ISGS Summer Schools to share their latest results, scientific innovations and industrial applications. These events favor the report on the state-of-the-art in all the concerned fields. But they are also interesting opportunities to develop new synergies and partnerships.

After 10 years of existing and growth (evidence of its recognition), the board of the ISGS wishes to open up the society and to welcome more widely active partners in settling a **partnership contract**.

Become a **partner** is a way to play a part in the development of research in the vast sol-gel field and to benefit of the multiple practical advantages coming with the partnership (http://www.isgs.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=99&Itemid=103). In addition, according to formula (Regular, Silver, Gold) selected in the attached Contract of Partnership, you can pretend to the corresponding advantages.

By taking part into the International Society, you'll contribute to the success of this ambitious realization. It is also an interesting opportunity to present your know-how and to happen to meet with new contacts.

We hope that you will join us in this exciting new adventure in the development of what is one of the most promising technology of the 21st century.

Best regards

The Board of ISGS