Supporting Information:

## Tuning Hydrophobicity in an Abiotic Affinity Reagent. Polymer Hydrogel Affinity Reagents for Molecules with Lipid-Like Domains.

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#### **Experimental:**

(a) Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectroscopy. NMRs were run using two Bruker instruments with either a BBO or TCI probe, both at 500MHz, and analysis was done using the XwinNMR and MestReNova programs. NP solutions were lyophilized, then redispersed into a solution of deuterated chloroform for analysis.

(b) Dynamic Light Scattering (DLS). Nanoparticle zetapotential, diameter, and polydispersity were determined with a Malvern ZEN3600 dynamic light scattering (DLS) instrument. Freshly dialyzed NPs were diluted 10 times in nanopure water for analysis.

(c) Elemental analysis. The functionalized beads (20 mg) were dried using vacuum filtration, then left in a vacuum desiccator overnight. The beads were then sent out to Atlantic Microlab, Inc. for elemental analysis of C, H, and N. The results were then compared to a theoretical composition of C, H, and N to determine the relative incorporation of polymer to beads.

(d) Percent yield of agarose bead functionalization. To determine relative yield, the washings from the polymerization step were saved and the solvent was removed using rotary evaporation. The residue was then weighed to determine yield.

(e) Kaiser test. The Kaiser test was used after the epoxide opening step. Around 5 mg of beads were dried by vacuum filtration and placed in a vial. Stock solutions of 0.5 g ninhydrin in 10 mL ethanol and 0.4 mL of 0.001 M KCN in 20 mL of pyridine were made up, and 100  $\mu$ L of each solution was mixed in with the dried beads. The mixture was then heated up to 100 °C for 5 min. A sample of unfunctionalized Sepharose CL-4B beads was run concurrently as a negative control.<sup>1</sup> The samples were then removed from heat, and the color of the solution was observed. A purple solution indicated the presence of primary amines, and an orange solution indicated a lack of primary amines in solution.

NP	OAm (mol%)	NiPAm (mol%)	Bis (mol%)	APM (mol%)	Z-avg (d.nm)	PDI	Yield (%)	Log ([NP])	pEC <sub>50</sub> (nM)
OAm2.5APM5	2.5	90.5	2	5	102	0.38	49	NC	NC
OAm5APM5	5	88	2	5	91	0.28	45	NC	NC
OAm10APM5	10	83	2	5	96	0.25	70	NC	NC
OAm20APM5	20	73	2	5	97	0.24	41	ND	ND
OAm2.5	2.5	95.5	2		83	0.06	56	-8.0	10.4
OAm5	5	93	2		75	0.05	57	NC	NC
OAm10	10	88	2		56	0.02	60	NC	NC

Table S1A. Summary of sizes, PDI's, yields, log[NP], and pEC<sub>50</sub> of all the OAm containing NPs synthesized.

### **Table S1B.** Summary of sizes, PDI's, yields, log[NP], and pEC<sub>50</sub> of all the HAm containing NPs synthesized.

NP	HAm (mol%)	NiPAm (mol%)	Bis (mol%)	APM (mol%)	Z-avg (d.nm)	PDI	Yield (%)	Log ([NP])	pEC <sub>50</sub> (nM)
HAm2.5APM5	2.5	90.5	2	5	90	0.36	47	NC	NC
HAm5APM5	5	88	2	5	90	0.26	54	ND	ND
HAm10APM5	10	83	2	5	91	0.26	55	ND	ND
HAm20APM5	20	73	2	5	96	0.24	48	-6.5	290.3
HAm2.5	2.5	95.5	2		66	0.08	63	NC	NC
HAm5	5	93	2		65	0.09	66	ND	ND
HAm10	10	88	2		58	0.06	62	-7.7	18.4

**Table S1C.** Summary of sizes, PDI's, yields,  $\log[NP]$ , and  $pEC_{50}$  of all the BAm/tBAm containing NPs synthesized.

NP	BAm	tBAm	NiPAm	Bis	APM	GUA	Z-avg	PDI	Yield	Log	pEC <sub>50</sub>
	(mol%)	(mol%)	(mol%)	(mol%)	(mol%)	(mol%)	(d.nm)		(%)	([NP])	(nM)
BAm5APM5	5		88	2	5		101	0.28	51	NC	NC
BAm10APM5	10		83	2	5		81	0.22	51	NC	NC
BAm20APM5	20		73	2	5		62	0.2	47	ND	ND
BAm30APM5	30		63	2	5		63	0.23	59	-8.0	10.2
BAm10GUA5	10		83	2		5	118	0.31	51	ND	ND
BAm20GUA5	20		73	2		5	70	0.33	57	ND	ND
BAm30GUA5	30		63	2		5	83	0.32	49	-7.1	79.3
BAm5	5		93	2			231	0.03	74	ND	ND
BAm10	10		88	2			131	0.0	62	-7.8	15.7
BAm20	20		78	2			94	0.03	66	-7.7	22.2
BAm30	30		68	2			79	0.03	67	-8.0	10.4
tBAm10		10	88	2			98	0.02	97	NC	NC

Supporting Table S1. A, B, C. Details of which nanoparticles were synthesized, and their sizes, determined by dynamic light scattering (DLS) at 25 °C, diluted 1:10 in nanopure water. NP were synthesized using an AIBN initiator and CTAB surfactant. All monomer solutions were flushed with N<sub>2</sub> for 15 minutes prior to addition of initiator. All NPs were stirred for 3 h at 60 °C. Yields were determined by lyophilizing 5 - 10 mL of solution, and weighing the product to determine mass percentage. The polymer  $EC_{50}$ 's (pEC<sub>50</sub>) was calculated using a four parameter logistic equation with a sigmoidal fit of anisotropy change in FP against log (NP concentration), with the polymers acting as the receptor, and the anisotropy change being the activity observed. The molecular weight of each NP was estimated to be 5000 kDa based off averages of previous molecular weight calculations. The raw data is shown in Figure 3, and S2. ND = Not Determined, NC = No Change in anisotropy.

## Table S2A.

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	T (°C)	OAm2.5APM5 (d.nm)	OAm5APM5 (d.nm)	OAm10APM5 (d.nm)
	15	86	64	65
	20	85	67	63
	25	92	71	70
	32	81	60	64
	38	73	57	60
	44	73	51	54

# Table S2B.

T (°C)	HAm2.5APM5 (d.nm)	HAm5APM5 (d.nm)	HAm10APM5 (d.nm)	HAm20APM5 (d.nm)
15	46	52	44	43
21	46	52	44	43
25	45	54	46	48
32	37	46	40	42
40	36	44	38	39
44	36	43	37	36

# Table S2C.

T (°C)	BAm5APM5 (d.nm)	BAm10APM5 (d.nm)	BAm20APM5 (d.nm)	BAm30APM5 (d.nm)
10			82	83
15	95	92	73	73
20	94	88	65	62
25	92	81	57	58
30	73	63	57	56
35	59	56	54	54
40	58	53	51	52
45	55	49	49	49

T (°C)	NiPAm 98% (d.nm)	OAm2.5 (d.nm)	OAm5 (d.nm)	OAm10 (d.nm)
15	125	82	87	60
22	135	89	82	61
30	156	83	73	52
36	113	47	45	38
42	57	42	42	43
48	63	43	40	37

## Table S2E.

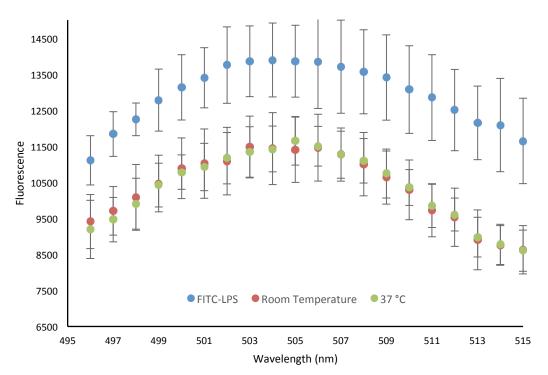
T (°C)	HAm2.5 (d.nm)	HAm5 (d.nm)	HAm10 (d.nm)
15	67	63	96
22	67	66	95
27	59	62	85
32	55	52	51
39	31	34	34
45	33	34	31

## Table S2F.

T (°C)	BAm5 (d.nm)	BAm10 (d.nm)	BAm20 (d.nm)
15	102	109	135
20	94	129	132
27	45	87	117
34	40	47	59
40	40	46	58

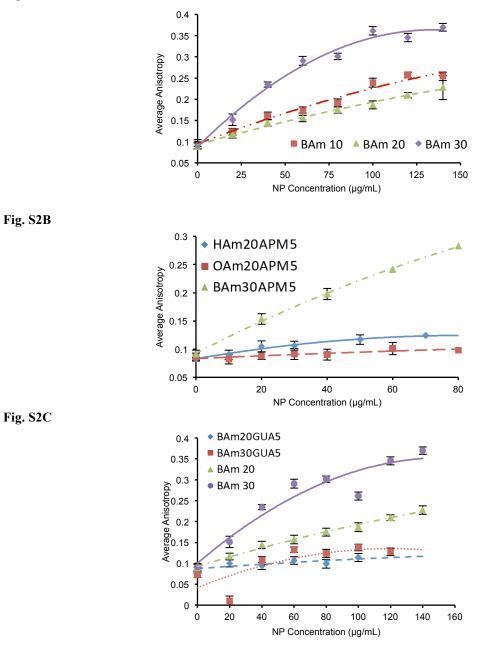
Supporting Table S2 A-F: Lower critical solution temperature (LCST) study on DLS data showing trends in size of various NPs based on changing temperature. NPs were diluted with nanopure water in 1:10 dilution from stock solutions. The study was done using disposable cuvettes. Each sample was equilibrated for 10 minutes prior to each reading. The italicized values represent values with PDI's that were too high for the particles to be considered monodisperse. All values are determined by the Z-avg of the samples.





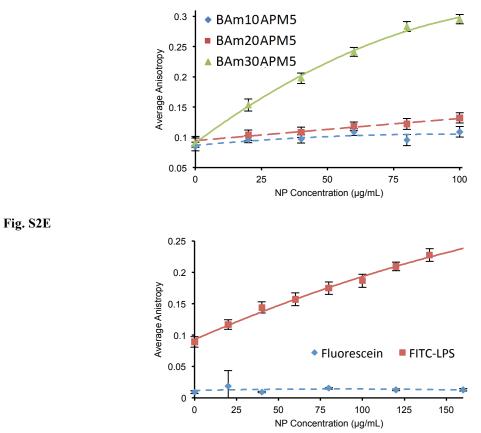
Supporting Figure S1: Fluorescence data on BAm30 NP interaction with FITC-LPS. NPs (1 mg/mL) were incubated in a FITC-LPS solution (1  $\mu$ g/mL) for 30 min at either 25 °C or 37 °C in SPB (10 mM, pH 7.0) with two controls (FITC-LPS only and NP only). The NPs were then pelleted (15,000 rpm, 45 min), and the supernatent was measured for presence of FITC-LPS (Ex: 495 nm, Em: 496 – 515 nm). The background fluoresence from the NP only solution was subtracted from the samples containing NPs.





VI





Supporting Figure S2: Fluorescence polarization study on NPs. NPs were titrated into a solution of 500 ng/mL FITC-LPS in 10 mM sodium phosphate buffer at pH 6.8. A:  $\blacksquare$  = BAm10,  $\blacktriangle$  = BAm20,  $\blacklozenge$  = BAm39. B:  $\blacksquare$  = OAm20APM5,  $\blacklozenge$  = HAm10APM5,  $\blacktriangle$  = BAm30APM5. C:  $\blacklozenge$  = BAm20GUA5,  $\blacksquare$  = BAm30GUA5,  $\blacktriangle$  = BAm20,  $\bullet$  = BAm30.

D: ♦ = BAm10APM5, ■ = BAm20APM5, ▲ = BAm30APM5. E: ♦ = Fluorescein, ■ = FITC-LPS.

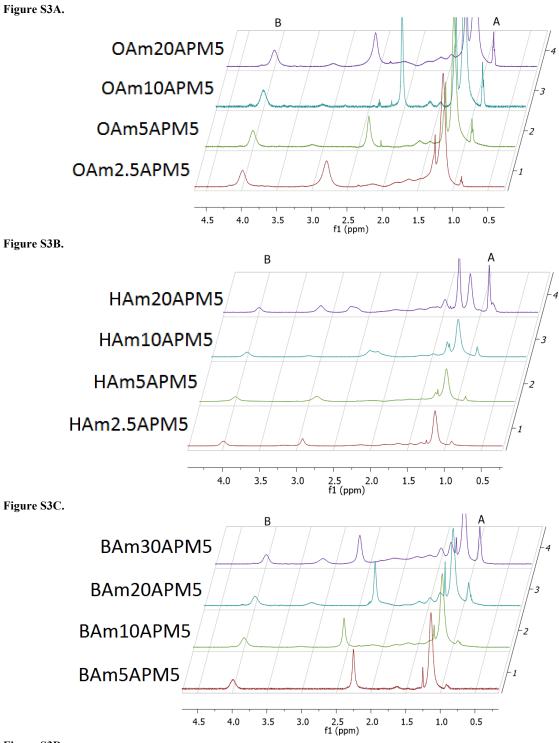
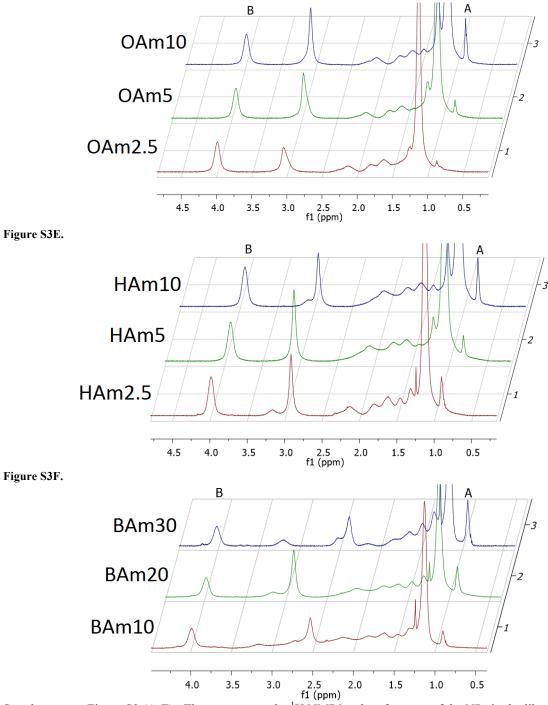


Figure S3D.



Supplementary Figure S3 (A-F): These represent the <sup>1</sup>H NMR's taken for most of the NPs in the library. The incorporation ratios are qualitatively deduced from observing the change in peaks A and B, with a change in feed ratio of the monomers. Peak A is a broad singlet around 0.9 ppm representing the terminal methyl group in the new hydrophobic monomers (BAm, HAm, OAm), and peak B is the broad singlet at ~4.1 ppm representing the methine of the isopropyl group in NiPAm.

Figure S4A.

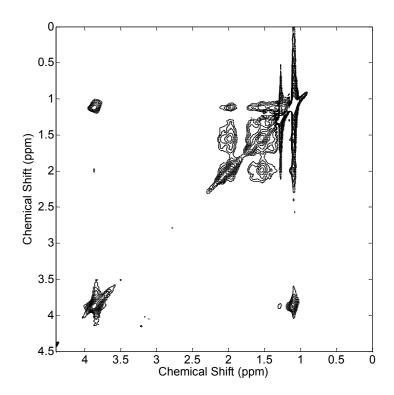
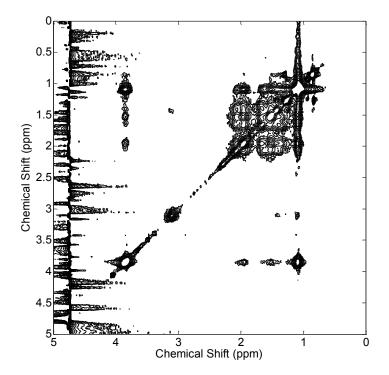
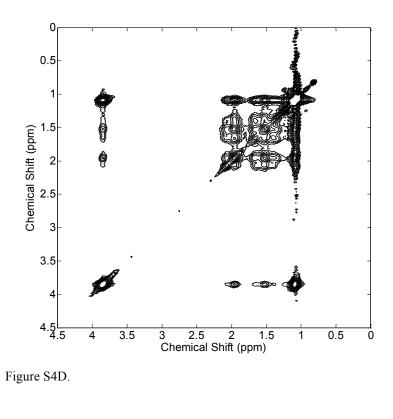
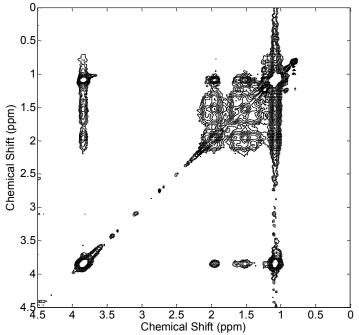


Figure S4B.









Supplementary Figure 4. 2D NOESY NMR of three NPs, A. tBAm10, B. BAm10, C. HAm10, D. OAm10, in 90:10 H<sub>2</sub>O: D<sub>2</sub>O.