

From the 2009 North Jersey Chair

## Dr. Joseph Potenza - No. Jersey

Fellow ACS members,

The North Jersey ACS Section is a community of volunteers dedicated to advancing and perpetuating the chemical sciences through education, research and development, community outreach, and legislative action. We believe that "Chemistry is at the Crossroads of Science" and that our members are making a difference by "improving lives through the transforming power of chemistry." In the past decade I have been truly impressed by the ability, dedication, and accomplishments of my colleagues in providing opportunities for disadvantaged students, by sharing with the general public the uses and excitement of chemistry as in their volunteer work, and by advancing the research and development component of our mission through numerous topical groups. But these are challenging times, and challenging times breed problems in need of creative solutions. Particularly in this climate, education and career development must prepare us for the future. I suggest that we focus first on the two broad areas outlined below, K-8 science education and redirecting productivity.

K-8 science (read chemistry for us) education is an area in which I have observed many excellent individual efforts in professional organizations, industry, and government. But it is also one where collaborative efforts could really make a difference. K-8 science education needs our concerted help for the sake of our children, our economy, and our welfare. Our new collaborative social networking tools let us share our efforts, choose the best ones, and train our



members to make a difference. I encourage you to visit our website [www.njacs.org](http://www.njacs.org) to share your company's, institution, group, or individual efforts in addressing K-8 science education with us, so that we may learn from them and take appropriate action.

Future chemists will be developed at every level. Join us in creating a brighter future for them.



Change is also liberating chemists with productive capacity at a time when their expertise is needed. A section-wide meeting has been proposed to discover how their entrepreneurial talents might be harnessed and refocused to make a difference. Our topical groups have provided a starting point by agreeing to address this challenge. Collectively, we in industry, academia and government must, as a first step, identify best practices to meet the existing and future needs of our state and our nation.

Within the section, a major cost is the Indicator. By moving to an electronic version, we can cut our cost by 75%, while at the same time providing color copy and increased coverage of the exciting happenings in the section. Additionally, web-based technology will give our members a chance to share ideas and to create interactive forums using social networking tools. For these reasons, we ask for your understanding and support for the proposed change.

Membership has declined as many jobs were moved out of our area, yet we have many peers who would profit from the new benefits of membership in ACS. ACS Career Services

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has significant new offerings that can help members in transit and members between jobs. The new Leadership Institute, for example, brings unprecedented value. A new program incorporating these benefits will be promoted aggressively in our schools and companies by ACS.

Lastly, it may be time to consider creating additional topical groups. Green chemistry, Environmental chemistry and Materials chemistry come to mind, but there may be others as well. During the coming year, we should assess need, feasibility and impact factors for such additions.

As noted above, I have been truly impressed by the accomplishments of my colleagues in the North Jersey ACS Section. In the next year, I hope to contribute more to its development and success. I also hope that many of you reading this message will understand better the importance of our work, and will take the opportunity to participate. If you are unaware of what we do or need a refresher course, please take ten minutes to visit our website at [www.njacs.org/about\\_njacs](http://www.njacs.org/about_njacs) for a detailed description of NJACS and its activities. And, don't hesitate to contact us if you wish to become a member of the section.

## January 2009 Calendar

### NEW YORK SECTION

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try, and developed the idea of photoaffinity labelling of the active site of proteins.

### January 16, 1767

Anders G. Ekeberg, who discovered tantalum in 1802, was born on this date. January 18, 1861 Hans Goldschmidt invented the aluminothermite process (Goldschmidt Process) on this day.

### January 20, 1834

One hundred and seventy-five years ago, Adolph Frank was born. He made calcium cyanamide from calcium carbide and nitrogen in 1898.

### January 21, 1845

The founder of the Mallinckrodt Chemical Works, Edward Mallinckrodt, was born on this day

### January 23, 1918

Gertrude B. Elion who was a researcher on the synthesis and development of therapeutic agents, was born on this date. She shared the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1988 with James W. Black and George H. Hitchings for their discoveries of important principles for drug treatment.

### January 26, 1939

Niels Bohr reported the discovery of nuclear fission by Otto Hahn and Fritz Strassman at Fifth Washington Conference on Theoretical Chemistry on this date.

### January 27, 1926

Chevron was incorporated on this date.

### January 31, 1963

The first manuscript on the solid phase synthesis of peptides by R. B. Merrifield was received on this date by the Journal of the American Chemical Society

Leopold May, *The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC*

## January Historical Events in Chemistry

### January 1, 1907

**A**luminum Company of America (ALCOA) renamed on this date. It was founded as the Pittsburgh Reduction Company, founded in 1888.

### January 2, 1947

US Atomic Energy Commission took over from wartime Manhattan Engineer Commission District.

### January 4, 1905

Seventy-five years ago, Aristid V. Grosse isolated protactinium metal in 1934 from the pentoxide that he isolated in 1927. He was born on this date.

### January 6, 1872

John V. N. Dorr, inventor and chemical engineer, was born on this date. He developed the Dorr classifier for extracting ore, which became a practical method for the separation and chemical treatment of fine solids suspended in liquid.

### January 7, 1941

John E. Walker, who was born on this day, studied the amino acid sequences in protein units of ATP syn-

thetase. He shared the Nobel Prize in 1997 with Paul D. Boyer for elucidation of the enzymatic mechanism underlying the synthesis of adenosine triphosphate (ATP) and Jens C. Skou for the first discovery of an ion-transporting enzyme, Na<sup>+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>-ATPase.

### January 10, 1916

Sune K. Bergström, who shared the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 1982 with Bengt I. Samuelsson and John R. Vane for their discoveries concerning prostaglandins and related biologically active substances, was born on this date..

### January 12, 1916

Ruth R. Benerito, who was the first woman to win the Southern Chemist Award for research in cotton chemistry, was born on this day. January 14, 1895 Armstrong World Industries incorporated as Armstrong Cork Co., on this day.

### January 15, 1912

Frank H. Westheimer, who was born on this date, was a researcher in physical organic chemistry, the calculation of electric effects in chemis-

# North Jersey Meetings & News

[www.njacs.org](http://www.njacs.org)

## NORTH JERSEY ELECTION RESULTS

**Chair-elect** Ambarish Singh  
Marriann Neverovitch

**Councilors** Alan Cooper  
Joseph Potenza  
Jacqueline Erickson  
Marilyn Gorman  
Anne Kelly

**Alternate Councilors** Bill Suits  
Jiwen Chen  
John Sowa  
Don Drinkwater  
Dorit Noether

## CAREERS IN TRANSITION GROUP

### Job Hunting??

Are you aware that the North Jersey Section holds monthly meetings at Fairleigh Dickinson University in Madison to help ACS members? Topics covered at these cost-free workshops are:

- The latest techniques in resume preparation
- Ways for improving a resume
- Answers to frequently asked interview question and
- Conducting an effective job search

The next meeting for the Careers In Transition Group will be held Thursday, January 8, 2009, in the Rice Lounge on the first floor of the New Academic Building. The meeting will start at 5:30 PM and end at 9:00. There will be a Dutch-treat dinner. To get the most from the meeting, be sure to bring transparencies of your resume. If you plan on attending this meeting, please contact [vjckuck@yahoo.com](mailto:vjckuck@yahoo.com).

## TEACHER AFFILIATES

### Executive Committee Meeting

**Date:** Monday January 12, 2009

**Time:** 4:30 PM

**Place:** Chatham High School  
255 Lafayette Avenue  
Chatham, NJ

**Contact:** Cheryl Litman at  
732-289-3700 Ext. 4034  
[clitman@mail.nbtschools.org](mailto:clitman@mail.nbtschools.org)

## ChemTAG MEETING

**Topic:** TBA

**Date:** Tuesday, January 13, 2009

**Time:** 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

**Place:** Oak Knoll School  
of the Holy Child  
44 Blackburn Road  
Summit, NJ

**Directions:**  
[www.oakknoll.org/welcome/contactus.aspx](http://www.oakknoll.org/welcome/contactus.aspx)

**Contact:** Irene Sawchyn at  
[irene.sawchyn@oakknoll.org](mailto:irene.sawchyn@oakknoll.org)  
(908) 522-8101.

## NEW JERSEY GROUP OF SMALL CHEMICAL BUSINESSES

Recent events in the global economy have presented significant challenges for the small business owner generally, and the small chemical business owner particularly.

In light of this situation, the NJ Group of Small Chemical Businesses continues its 2008 / 2009 program season with meetings designed to address these challenges - **Surviving the Economic Downturn**. We invite you to mark your calendars for the following meetings which will identify ways you can stabilize, secure and ultimately grow your business in these difficult economic

times. Meeting abstracts and speakers will be finalized in the coming weeks and you will receive our regular meeting invitations detailing each presentation. Go to [www.njgscb.org](http://www.njgscb.org) for details.

### UCEDC (Union County Economic Development Corporation)

Stabilize your business by learning what economic resources are available to help stem the tightened credit situation, including financing available from the U.S. SBA (Small Business Administration).

**Date:** Thurs, Jan 15, 2009

### Times:

5:30 PM Networking Hour  
Cash Bar

6:30 PM Dinner and  
Introductions

7:15 PM Presentation and Q & A

8:15 PM Networking and Dessert

**Place:** Holiday Inn, North  
(on the north side of  
Newark Airport)  
160 Frontage Rd.  
Newark, NJ

For map and directions, see  
[www.NJGSCB.org](http://www.NJGSCB.org)

### Next Meetings

**Date:** Thursday, March 19, 2009

### Lauterback Marketing

Secure your business by learning how to "bullet-proof" it, and maintain your margins in this volatile economic environment.

**Date:** Thursday, May 21, 2009

**Place:** Fairleigh-Dickinson Institute  
for Sustainable Enterprise

Grow your business by learning how to make it a "sustainable venture" thereby preparing it for, and aligning it with the challenges and opportunities in the evolving Green Business environment.

## North Jersey Meetings & News (cont'd)

### CECIL BROWN LECTURE

#### *Novel Materials for Drug Delivery and Tissue Engineering*

Speaker: **Professor Robert Langer**

The North Jersey Section of the ACS is delighted to announce that Professor Robert Langer, one of 14 Institute Professors at MIT, will be the 2009 Cecil Brown Lecturer.



Professor Langer's research spans a range of areas including drug delivery, tissue engineering, stem cell research, biomaterials, and angiogenesis inhibition. He is a member of both the National Academy of Science and the National Academy of Engineering, and has received over 160 major awards including the 2006 U.S. Medal of Science, the Charles Stark Draper prize, and the 2008 Millennium Prize. In 2006, he was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame; with over 600 issued and pending patents, he is one of the most prolific inventors in the history of medicine.

For more about Professor Langer's work, visit his website at: <http://web.mit.edu/langerlab/langer.html>.

For registration and an abstract of the talk, visit [www.njacs.org](http://www.njacs.org).

The lecture is presented in conjunction with the Annual Chemistry Graduate Student Association Lecture of Rutgers University.

**Date:** Tuesday, February 3, 2009

**Time:** 3:00 PM

**Place:** Fiber Optics Auditorium  
Busch Campus  
Rutgers University  
Piscataway, NJ.

### POLYMER TOPICAL GROUP

A very successful symposium on "**Functional Packaging Through Chemistry**" was held on October 29, 2008 at the NJIT Campus Center Atrium. The symposium was organized by Dr. Tamal Ghosh, and co-organized by Dr. Bin Wei (Henkel) and Dr. Ankur S. Kulshrestha (BD Medical). Dr. Bin Wei was the Posters Chair and Dr. Nicole Harris (Sun Chemical) was the Exhibits Chair. Of the 72 colleagues in attendance, there were 45 ACS members, 18 non-ACS and 9 students.

There were 6 presentations focusing on new developments in functional packaging for general commercial use, and for pharmaceutical and electronic applications. The poster/mixer session consisted of 8 industrial and academic posters, and 1 commercial exhibitor (Ciba Expert Services).

The next symposium, titled "**Polymers for Sensory and Energy-Related Applications**", will be on May 14, 2009 from 1:00- 6:30 p.m. in the Paul Robeson Campus

#### Photos from the Oct 29 Polymer Topical Group meeting



*Opening remarks from Mark Lavach (Arkema Inc.) where he manages the Applications Development and Technical Services Group of the Functional Additives Division, specializing in polymer additives. A member of SPE, he currently serves as 2nd Vice- President of the SPE Palisades- New Jersey Section.*

*Tom Pacansky (PTG Chair) and Ron DeMartino (Secretary) discuss last minute event plans.*



*Dr. Tamal Ghosh (symposium organizer) introducing Dr. Jeannette Truncellito (Sun Chemical).*

*Front row: keynote speaker Dr. Bob Kimmel (Clemson) with Dr. Jeannette Truncellito (Sun Chemical). Back row, Dr. Michael Ruberto (Ciba), Dr. Allison Xiao (Henkel), Dr. Harris Goldberg (Inmat) and Dr. Jim Nangeroni (NatureWorks).*





## New York Meetings & News

### CHEMICAL MARKETING & ECONOMICS GROUP

#### 2009 Economic Outlook

**Speaker:** T. Kevin Swift  
Senior Director - Policy,  
Economics & Risk Analy-  
sis, American Chemistry  
Council Arlington, VA

**Date:** Thursday, January 8,  
2009 [Note date is sec-  
ond Thursday of the  
month]

**Times:** Cocktails 11:30 AM  
Luncheon 12 noon

**Presentation** 1:15 PM

**Place:** Club Quarters  
40 West 45th Street  
New York, NY

**Cost:** \$45 discount price for Mem-  
bers who reserve by Tuesday before  
the meeting (12 noon). \$55 for  
Guests and Members (at the door  
without reservations)

**To reserve:** Please reserve early  
to be eligible for discount price. Call  
Vista Marketing at (917) 684-1659 or  
via e-mail to: [cmegroup@mac.com](mailto:cmegroup@mac.com).  
You can also pay online (via PayPal):  
go to our Website:  
<http://www.nyacs-cme.org/> and click  
the proper button.

#### Next Meeting...

#### Chemical Credit, M&A, and the Financial Outlook for 2009

**Speaker:** Joseph S. Chang, Global  
Editor, ICIS Chemical  
Business

**Date:** Thursday, Feb 5, 2009

### HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS TOPICAL GROUP

#### Learn That Technology Is Fun: Spectrometric Examination of Barbeque Sauce

**Speaker:** Dr. Jerry DeMenna  
Fun-Science Academics  
345 W. 58th St. Suite 2K  
New York, NY

**Date:** Friday, January 9, 2009

**Times:** Social & Dinner: 5:45 PM

**Place:** Caffe Pane e Cioccolato  
10 Waverly Place  
at Mercer Street  
(South-west corner)  
New York, NY

(You eat, you pay cash  
only, no credit cards. No  
reservations required.)

**Times:** Meeting — 7:15 PM

**Place:** New York University  
Silver Center Room 207  
32 Waverly Place  
(South-east corner Wash-  
ington Sq. East)  
New York, NY

Security at NYU requires that you  
show a picture ID to enter the build-  
ing. In case of unexpected severe  
weather, call John Roeder, 212-497-  
6500, between 9 AM and 2 PM to  
verify that meeting is still on; 914-  
961-8882 for other info.

Note: Street parking is free after  
6:00 PM. For those who prefer indoor  
attended parking, it is available at  
the Melro/Romar Garages. The en-  
trance is on the west side of Broad-  
way just south of 8th Street, directly  
across from Astor Place. It is a short,  
easy walk from the garage to the  
restaurant or meeting room.

### ASSOCIATION OF CONSULTING CHEMISTS & CHEMICAL ENGINEERS

#### Man in Space - Next Stop, Mars

**Speaker:** Dr. Alfred U. Mac Rae

Space is often referred to as the  
last frontier for exploration. It is  
an intriguing place in our environ-  
ment and the challenge of putting  
man in space has inspired the imagi-  
nation of scientists and writers for  
many generations.

The emphasis of this talk is to pro-  
vide a historical view of the technol-  
ogy used to venture into space, prac-

tical applications of space technology  
and to describe some of the issues  
that need to be addressed before  
putting a man on Mars. We will con-  
clude the talk with an open discus-  
sion with audience participation on  
the subject of "Should we go to Mars  
and what benefits do we expect to  
gain from such a venture?"

Upon obtaining his PhD in Physics  
from Syracuse University, Dr. Alfred  
U. Mac Rae joined Bell Labs in  
Murray Hill, NJ where he did basic  
research on solid state and surface  
physics in the Fundamental Physics  
organization. He then switched to the  
management of the development of  
advanced integrated circuit fabrica-  
tion technology and circuit design  
and finished up his career in Bell  
Labs managing the design and intro-  
duction into manufacturing of large  
communications transmission sys-  
tems, retiring as Director of Satellite  
Communications. Since then, he has  
served as an international consultant  
in cellular and space technology.

He has received many awards cover-  
ing integrated circuit technology and  
space. He is an elected member of  
the National Academy of Engineering,  
a Fellow of the American Physical  
Society and a Fellow of the Institute  
of Electrical and Electronic Engineers.  
He has 18 patents, with one singled  
out by the CEO of AT&T for its signifi-  
cant contribution to the earnings of  
that company.

**Date:** Tuesday, January 27, 2009

**Time:** Networking/Cash Bar  
6:00 PM

**Dinner** 6:30 PM

**Presentation:** 7:30 PM

**Place:** Snuffy's Restaurant  
Scotch Plains, NJ

**Cost:** \$35 ACC&CE Members  
\$45 Non-members

**To Reserve:** Call 1-973-729-6671 or  
e-mail: [accce@chemconsult.org](mailto:accce@chemconsult.org). Ad-

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## New York Meetings & News (cont'd)

(Continued from page 5)

vanced registration is required.

Please visit [www.chemconsult.org](http://www.chemconsult.org) for more details.

### NY-ACS BIOCHEMICAL TOPICAL GROUP – JOINT MEETING WITH THE NYAS BIOCHEMICAL PHARMACOLOGY DISCUSSION GROUP

*Accelerating Drug Development with Innovative Discovery Platforms*

**Organizers:** David Bearss  
SuperGen, Inc.

George Zavoico  
Cantor Fitzgerald

The application of several innovative drug discovery platforms designed to shorten the time from target validation to identification of drug leads will be described in this symposium, with an emphasis on targeted therapeutics designed to attack genetic alterations that drive the onset and progression of disease.

**Date:** Tuesday, January 27, 2009

**Time:** 1:00 – 5:00 PM

**Place:** NY Academy of Sciences  
7 World Trade Center  
250 Greenwich Street –  
40th Floor  
New York, NY

Space is limited. Reserve a seat online at: <http://www.nyas.org/events>

NYAS Members and BPDG Affiliates may attend BPDG meetings free of charge. Non-members may attend for a fee of \$20 per event; Student Non-members for \$10.

To become a Member of the Academy, visit <http://www.nyas.org/landing.html>.

### ACS NEW YORK SECTION MEETINGS FOR 2009

The Board of Directors Meetings for the New York Section in 2009 are as follows:

- **January 17**  
Section-Wide Conference
- **February 13**
- **March 13**  
Nichols Medal Symposium and Dinner, Crowne Plaza, White Plains, NY
- **April 17**
- **June 5**
- **September 11**
- **November 13**

The regular Board Meetings will be held at St. John's University, 8000 Utopia Parkway, Jamaica, NY. These meetings are open meetings and all are welcome. If you are not a member of the Board of Directors and wish to attend please inform the New York Section Office at 516-883-7510 or [njesper1@optonline.net](mailto:njesper1@optonline.net).

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### WESTCHESTER CHEMICAL SOCIETY

On Tuesday, October 28, 2008, the Westchester Chemical Society presented Dr. Paul W. Dillon from Siemens Healthcare Diagnostic in Tarrytown, who discussed "Serum Markers of Liver Fibrosis."



### LONG ISLAND SUBSECTION

*Twelfth Annual Frances S. Sterrett Environmental Chemistry Symposium*

The annual Frances S. Sterrett Symposium is dedicated to presenting the public with up-to-date, factual scientific information on environmental topics. Watch for updates at the New York section web site: [www.newyorkacs.org](http://www.newyorkacs.org).

SAVE THE DATE!

**Date:** May 21, 2009

**Times:** 8:30 AM – 2:00 PM

**Place:** Hofstra University

### EMPLOYMENT AND PROFESSIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE NEW YORK SECTION

*To Human Resources Departments in Industry and Academia*

The Employment and Professional Relations Committee maintains a roster of candidates who are ACS members seeking a position in the New York metropolitan area. If you have job openings and would like qualified candidates to contact you, please send a brief job description and educational/experience background required to [hessy-taft@hotmail.com](mailto:hessy-taft@hotmail.com).

Candidates from our roster who meet the requirements you describe will be asked to contact you.

## New York Meetings & News (cont'd)

### NATIONAL CHEMISTRY WEEK – NEW YORK SECTION

The New York Section celebrated National Chemistry Day on Saturday, October 25 at the New York Hall of Science in Flushing, NY. With over 1200 attendees, 286 volunteers, 20 colleges, universities and corporations, the day was absolutely a success.

We were also privileged to have the 2008 ACS President Dr. Bruce Bursten and Dr. Mehmood Khan, Senior Vice President - Chief Science Officer of Pepsi-Cola. Their reaction to the day "Wow"! Dr. David Sherman, a Principal Scientist for Pepsi-Cola, is the driving force for NY-NCW.



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