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THIS MONTH IN CHEMICAL HISTORY

Harold Goldwhite, California State University, Los Angeles • hgoldwh@calstatela.edu

In recent columns I drew to your attention a new book about the history of chemistry. called "The Chemistry Book" by Derek B. Lowe, published by Sterling in 2016. Its subtitle is "From gunpowder to graphene; 250 milestones in the history of chemistry". One of the book's most attractive features is that each one page article is accompanied by a full page illustration, mostly in color, relevant to the milestone described. I will now review a few more entries in chronological order.

In 1631 a new and effective remedy against malaria was brought from South America to Rome. Known then as Jesuit's Bark it proved valuable against this debilitating disease which was common in the marshy areas of southern Italy. The efficacy of this remedy obtained from the cinchona tree seems to have been known to the indigenous peoples of what is now Bolivia and Peru and was subsequently exported to Europe by the envoys of the Catholic Church. For centuries the active ingredient in cinchona bark, which was later called quinine, was the only effective treatment for the fevers and weakness of malaria. Since the bark was rare and expensive in Europe only the wealthiest could afford the treatment. In the 20th. century a group of distinguished chemists including Rabe, Woodward, Doering, and Stork elucidated the structure of quinine and synthesized it.

In 1661 the great English natural philosopher (and alchemist!) Robert Boyle published his best-known (though one of his less readable) books: "The Skeptical Chymist". It is an attack on the 2000 year old theory of the four elements of Plato and Aristotle and their predecessors. The book is in the form of a dialog in which Boyle, a confirmed corpuscularist and adherent of the mechanical philosophy, steadily demolishes the arguments for a four element (earth, air, fire, and water) theory of matter; proposes a modern-sounding definition of an element; and concludes by doubting that he knows of any such material – the sceptic at work. What to me is most remarkable about this publication is that after 2000 years it was still worth mounting an attack on an ancient theory of matter.

In 1667 a somewhat obscure German alchemist and physician, Johann Joachim Becher, propounded a new theory of combustion that was, in my opinion, just a rehash of Plato and Aristotle's fire element. Becher opined that all materials that burn contain a fatty principle that he called terra pinguis, or fatty earth. A more significant follower of Becher was Georg Stahl, a German Court Physician and chemist, who took over Becher's earthy principle, renamed it phlogiston, and treated it in his own interpretations of combustion and oxidation as a material substance. Note the difference: material substance, not tenuous principle. In some respects Stahl's phlogiston theory of combustion can be called the first comprehensive chemical theory. Things burn because they are rich in phlogiston. When they burn they give off their phlogiston. The role of air in combustion is purely mechanical: to take up the emitted phlogiston.

In 1669 my favorite element, phosphorus, was first isolated by the alchemist Hennig Brand. The preparation, based upon alchemical views of the microcosm and the macrocosm, involves evaporating a large quantity of human urine to a paste; heating the paste to dryness in a retort; and then roasting the residue to redness when fumes of white phosphorus are given off and can be collected in water. This wondrous material glows spontaneously in air and hence was called phosphorus, or light bearer. Brand tried to keep his preparation a secret, in the best alchemical tradition, but hints soon leaked out and a few years later Robert Boyle published details of the preparation. Phosphorus was soon thereafter displayed as a parlor trick at parties.

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Address advertising correspondence to Advertising Manager. Other correspondence to the Editor.

November Calendar

NEW YORK SECTION

Thursday, November 3, 2016 Long Island Subsection See page 5.

Thursday, November 6, 2016 Chemical Marketing and Economics Group See page 6.

Thursday, November 10, 2016 Westchester Chemical Society See page 7.

Thursday, November 17, 2016 Long Island Subsection Board Meeting See page 7.

Friday, November 18, 2016New York Section Executive Meeting *See page 5.*

Friday, November 18, 2016High School Teachers Topical Group *See page 8.*

also

Thursday, December 1, 2016 LI Subsection Holiday Seminar & Election See page 8.

Tuesday, December 6, 2016Chemical Marketing and Economics Group *See page 10.*

Thursday, December 8, 2016, Early February 2017 Westchester Chemical Society See pages 8-9.

Friday, December 16, 2016; Wednesday, January 18, 2017; Fridays, February 10, March 17, April 21, and May 19, 2017 High School Teachers Topical Group See page 9.

NORTH JERSEY SECTION

Monday, November 14, 2016 North Jersey Executive Committee Meeting See page 13.

Monday, November 14, 2016 Careers in Transition See page 13.

Monday, November 14, 2016 Chromatography Discussion Group See page 14.

Deadline for items to be included in the December 2016 issue of *The Indicator* is October 28, 2016

The Indicator is posted to the web around the 15th of the previous month at www.TheIndicator.org



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New York Meetings

www.newyorkacs.org

NEW YORK SECTION BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2016

The dates for the Board Meetings of the ACS New York Section for 2016 have been selected and approved. The meetings are open to all – everybody is welcome. All non-board members who would like to attend any of the meetings ought to inform the New York Section office by emailing Mrs. Marilyn Jespersen at njesper1@optonline.net or by calling the Section office at (516) 883-7510.

All 2016 Board Meetings will be held on the following dates at St. John's University, 8000 Utopia Parkway, Jamaica, NY. Dr. Alison Hyslop will chair all meetings. Refreshments will be available starting at 6:00 PM while the actual meeting will start at exactly 6:30 PM. Please check Marilyn Jespersen for the exact building and room number. You may also be added in the mailing list if you so desire.

The board meetings dates for 2016 will be

Friday, November 18, 2016

More information will be posted in future monthly issues of *The Indicator* and on the New York website at

http://www.NewYorkACS.org



LONG ISLAND SUBSECTION

Exciting Semi-Conducting Materials Discovery in Organic Electronics

Speaker: Dr. Sujun Wei

Queensborough Community

College- CUNY Bayside, NY

Organic electronics is a fascinating and interdisciplinary field of material science, concerning the design, synthesis, characterization, and application of organic small molecules or polymers. Typical applications include Organic Light-Emitting Diodes (OLED), Organic Field-Effect Transistors (OFET) and Organic Solar Cells (OSC). The emergence of new technology is often preceded by significant advances in materials. In this seminar, I'll introduce this particular field, and discuss our recent efforts in the exploration and understanding of a few new semiconducting materials. Among them I will focus on polymers containing thiophene-1,1-dioxide (TDO) by oxidizing polythiophenes with Rozen's reagent (HOF-CH3CN). This reaction can be controlled with this potent, yet orthogonal reagent under mild ambient conditions. It proceeds in a matter of minutes, introducing up to sixty percent TDO moieties in the polymer backbone. The resulting polymers have a remarkable low-lying unoccupied orbital (LUMO), consequently exhibiting a small band gap. I'll also discuss the investigation of small molecules' semiconducting properties by the Scanning Tunneling Microscopebased Breaking Junction method (STM-BJ).

Date: Thursday, November 3, 2016

Times: Social – 5:30 PM Seminar – 6:00 PM

Place: CUNY Queensborough Community

College, Science Building, S-111

Directions: http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/ about/driving.html



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CHEMICAL MARKETING & ECONOMICS (CM&E) GROUP

Propelling Growth and Diversification through M&A

Speaker: Theodore Clark, CEO

Royal Adhesives and Sealants

Date: Thursday, November 3, 2016

Times: 11:00 AM. - 2:00 PM

Place: Penn Club

304 West 44 Street

New York, NY

Cost: Webcast free for ACS members

For more information, see flyer below.



PROPELLING GROWTH AND DIVERSIFICATION THROUGH M&A

Luncheon/Webcast • November 3, 2016 • Penn Club

Free Webcast for ACS National Members - Register at www.cmeacs.org

Abstract

Royal Adhesives and Sealants, a member of the American Securities portfolio of companies, today ranks among the world's top ten adhesive companies. Its remarkable growth was achieved by navigating successfully the challenges of conducting 18 acquisitions since 2003 while the company ownership itself changed hands three times to fit its key stages of expansion. It has established an industry hallmark for dynamic integration into a single global management system designed to benefit customers through global scale, diversified technologies, application service expertise and supply chain efficiencies.

The global market for adhesives & sealants, valued at \$42 billion with a CAGR of 3.2%, is highly fragmented with the top ten players representing 45% of the market and 55% of the market represented by a few players with sales between \$100 to \$350 Million and numerous players between \$5 to \$100M in sales driven by vehicle light weighting, energy efficiency and the replacement of mechanical fasteners which has created a vibrant environment of exciting opportunities. After 13 years executing a strategy of organic growth and M&A, Royal Adhesives is well poised to continue to capitalize on these changes.

Join us to hear the insights of the M&A architect at Royal Adhesives about his prolific record of growth through acquisitions and his views about the future.





Speaker: Theodore Clark is the Co-Founder. President and Chief Executive Officer of Royal Adhesives & Sealants LLC, a global top ten manufacturer of adhesives and sealants for the transportation, assembly and construction industries and is also an investor and member of the Board of Directors of MPD Laboratories Inc. a leading manufacturer of acrylate and organosilicon monomers used for healthcare applications including dental technologies, bio medical, wound care and contact & intraocular, lenses and a former investor and Board of Director of Nusil LLC a leading silicone manufacturer and supplier to the medical and aerospace industry. Mr. Clark is also on the Foundation Board or Directors for Verdugo Hills Hospital in La Canada California.

Mr. Clark has over thirty five years executive experience including the last twenty as President and Chief Executive of three different specialty chemical manufacturers, PRC-Desoto International, Burke Industries and has led Royal Adhesives LLC since its founding in 2003.



Event Schedule

Location:
Penn Club
30 W 44th Street, NYC.
Event Times: (ET)
11:15 am - 12:00 noon
Registration and
Networking
12 noon - 1 pm Luncheon
1 pm - 2 pm Talk - Webcast
Luncheon Fees
\$300 for members
\$90 for members
Check for Early-bird savings
Webcast 1:30. Free webcast

recording for ACS members

Event Host
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www.cmeacs.org

WESTCHESTER CHEMICAL SOCIETY

Special Seminar – "Competitive AlphaScreen® Assay for Hyaluronan Detection"

Speaker: Xiayun Huang

Tandon School of Engineering

New York University

New York, NY

This is a sensitive, rapid and cost-effective assay for hyaluronan (HA) quantification. It is almost independent of HA molecular mass; all HA greater than about 10 monosaccharides in length are equally detected. HA can be detected in the mass range of approximately 0.06-8 ng, using 2.5 μ l of sample containing HA at a concentration of approximately 25-3200 ng/ml. This homogeneous assay does not require any wash step, in contrast with traditional enzymelinked immunosorbent assays. It combines specific binding between hyaluronan (HA) aggrecan (G1-IGD-G2) AlphaScreen® technology. AlphaScreen uses two types of beads: donor beads and acceptor beads. Donor beads convert ambient oxygen to excited singlet oxygen upon illumination at 680 nm. The singlet oxygen can diffuse approximately 200 nm in solution. Within this distance, energy can be transferred from the singlet oxygen to acceptor beads, which subsequently emit signal at 520-620 nm. Two beads can be brought into proximity through interaction of an analyte and its antibody or other binding partner.

In this HA assay, streptavidin-coated donor beads are used to bind biotinylated HA. The HA can specifically bind histidine-tagged aggrecan (G1-IGD-G2), which can in turn be captured by nickel chelate acceptor beads. Because the biotin-streptavidin interaction and Ni2+-histidine interactions are of very high affinity, the proximity of the two beads is determined by binding of the HA and aggrecan (G1-IGD-G2) that are tethered to the donor and acceptor beads, respectively. Signal due to the HA-aggrecan binding can be competitively inhibited by addition of unlabeled HA. either from calibration standards or samples. Unlabeled HA inhibits the HA-aggrecan interaction in a dose-dependent manner. By the extent of signal decrease. HA concentration of samples can be quantified.

Xiayun Huang is a Ph.D. student in Materials Chemistry at the Tandon School of

Engineering, New York University. He is currently working with Dr. Mary Cowman focusing on bioanalytical and biophysical chemistry, with special emphasis on hyaluronan (HA) research. Xiayun got his Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Science from Fudan University, Shanghai, China.

Date: Thursday, November 10, 2016

Times: Refreshments 5:30 PM

Lecture 6:00 PM

Place: Westchester Community College

Gateway Building, Room 110 75 Grasslands Road

Valhalla, NY

Cost: Free and Open to the Public

Further Information: Paul Dillon PaulWDillon2@hotmail.com

(914) 393-6940

Or:

Anthony Durante anthony.durante@bcc.cuny.edu (718) 289-5542 or 5569

Note: Inclement Weather: Cancellation Due to Inclement Weather

Should Westchester Community College's Valhalla campus close due to inclement weather (or has delayed opening or closes early) the meeting will be cancelled. Decisions about delay/closure are made around 6:00 AM for day courses and 3:00 PM for evening courses. The college will communicate delays, closings or early dismissals on their website (www.sunywcc.edu), Facebook, Twitter, and the (914) 606-6900 phone line.



LONG ISLAND SUBSECTION

Board Meeting:

Dates: Thursday, November 17, 2016

Times: 6:30 PM

Place: Nassau Community College

Life Sciences Building Chemistry Department Office

2nd Floor

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HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS TOPICAL GROUP

The Discovery of Gravitational Waves from Colliding Black Holes

Speaker: Imre Bartos

Columbia University.

One hundred years ago, Albert Einstein predicted the existence of gravitational waves, ripples in the very fabric of space-time. Gravitational waves can be created during the birth and collision of black holes, and can reach us from distant galaxies. The Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO) recently detected gravitational waves for the first time in history from black holes billions of light years away. LIGO measured miniscule disturbances in space, much smaller than the size of the atoms from which the detector is built. The detection of gravitational waves and black holes will fundamentally change our understanding of gravity and space, and will expand the frontiers of astrophysics and cosmology by opening a new window to the universe. I will introduce gravitational waves, their recent discovery and how this will change the course of astronomy.

Date: Friday, November 18, 2016

Times: Social and Dinner — 5:45 PM

Meeting — 7:15 PM

Place: Social and Dinner - TBD

Meeting — New York University Silver Center for Arts and Sciences, Room 207 Enter from 32 Waverly Place South-east corner Washington Sg. East or Washington Place

New York, NY

Security at NYU requires that you show a picture ID to enter the building.

In case of unexpected severe weather, call John Roeder, (212) 497-6500, between 9:00 AM and 2:00 PM to verify that meeting is still on; (516) 385-4698 for other info.

Note: On street parking is free after 6:00 PM.

"We have staked the whole future of American civilization not on the power of government, far from it. We have staked the future of all of our political institutions upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God."

James Madison

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 hessytaft@hotmail.com.

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



LONG ISLAND SUBSECTION

Holiday seminar and election

Date: Thursday, December 1, 2016

Time: 5:30 PM

Place: Nassau Community College



WESTCHESTER CHEMICAL SOCIETY

FUTURE MEETINGS

Special Seminar – "Effects of Overhanging Analyte Oligo Tails in Model DNA and Morpholino Arrays"

Speaker: Ursula Koniges

Tandon School of Engineering

New York University,

Brooklyn, NY

Hybridization of in-solution nucleic acid targets to surface-immobilized probes is a common mechanism employed in genetic analysis methods, for example DNA microarrays. In such applications, in-solution targets can be imperfect length matches to surface probes, with the resulting possibility of nucleic acid tails extending toward the surface, toward solution, or with overhangs of both orientations. We report the impact of surface- and solution-oriented tails on hybridization thermodynamics at a surface, and compare these results to a perfectly size-matched target and to solution

hybridization thermodynamics. Several different probe coverages and solution ionic strengths are investigated. In addition to a DNA probe, a probe comprised of an uncharged DNA analogue, morpholino, is used to investigate the electrostatic contribution to the tail-orientation dependent biases. The reported results indicate that a surface-oriented tail markedly increases the hybridization energy penalty, whereas a solution-oriented tail has a significantly lower energy penalty effect. These results also help explain observations from a comparative study of the performance of DNA and morpholino microarrays.

Ursula Koniges is completing her Ph.D. in chemical engineering at New York University's Tandon School of Engineering in the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering. Her doctoral work is supervised by Dr. Rastislav Levicky, and focuses on the development of DNA-based biosensors. Ursula's undergraduate work at the University of Washington in Seattle earned her dual bachelor's degrees in biochemistry and chemical engineering, and a minor in international studies.

Date: Thursday, December 8, 2016 For Times, Place, Cost, and Further Information, see page 7.

Special Seminar – "Yes, But Why Sulfuric Acid? - Young William H Nichols Entry into 19th Century Chemical Industry"

Speaker: Peter Corfield, PhD

Department of Chemistry Fordham University

Bronx, NY

William H Nichols was a remarkable man who had great influence on the young New York chemical industry. He and his friend Charles Waters started manufacturing mineral acids when he was only eighteen. He eventually founded the General Chemical Company, which after many mergers and acquisitions became the Allied Chemical Corporation. He was noted for his entrepreneurial spirit, for bringing scientific principles into manufacturing, and for high ethical standards. As a mature industrial chemist, Nichols funded the gold medal for the New York Section's new annual research award This became the first national award of the American Chemical Society, now known as the William H. Nichols Medal Award. The presentation will explore Nichols' contributions in the context of the state of chemical industry in New York during the latter part of the nineteenth century.

Tentative

Date: Early February, 2017 For Times, Place, Cost, and Further Information, see page 7.



HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS TOPICAL GROUP

FUTURE MEETINGS

Friday, December 16, 2016 Wednesday, January 18, 2017 Friday, February 10, 2017 Friday, March 17, 2017 Friday, April 21, 2017 Friday, May 19, 2017



NEW YORK NANOSCIENCE DISCUSSION GROUP

2016-2017 Sessions

Hosted by the New York University Department of Chemistry

Speakers to be announced.

The NYNDG is an ACS Topical Group that meets in the New York University Department of Chemistry. Sessions feature 30-minute presentations three nanoscience, one each with strong orientain biology, chemistry, physics/applied mathematics. Presentations will be focused on discussion of recent work, although speakers will place the work in a context understandable to a broad audience.

Mark Your Calendars

Dates: Tuedays, February 7 and

June 6, 2017

Times: Refreshments at 7:00 PM

Science at 7:30 PM

Place: New York University, Silver Center

31 Washington Place (between Washington Square East and

Greene Street)
Room 1003 (10th floor)

For more information, contact: James Canary (james.canary@nyu.edu)

Topical Group History: http://www.nyu.edu/projects/nanoscience

















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Tuesday December 6, 2016 • 11:30 am – 2:30 pm Metropolitan Club, 1 E 60th St, New York, NY 10022

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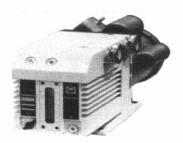
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New York Senator Peralta Will Attend New York Section National Chemistry Week Celebration on Oct. 30, 2016



Meet our esteemed guest, New York Senator Jose Peralta, as he celebrates the National Chemistry Week (NCW) 2016 with us! Senator Peralta will attend our NCW Chemistry Hands-on Event on Sunday, October 30, 2016 from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm at New York Hall of Science. (Photo Source: NY State Senate)

Dear NCW Coordinator, Chemistry Department Head or Chemistry Club Advisor:

We would like to share this exciting news with you: Thanks to our Section Chair, Dr. Alison Hyslop, and Government Affairs Leader, Dr. Marc Walters, who extended warm invitation to Senator Jose Peralta of District 13 to attend our NCW-NYSCI Chemistry Event, the Senator has graciously accepted the invitation and will show up with his staff from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm on the event day (Sunday, Oct. 30th)!

We hope you, your students and/or colleagues will take this great opportunity to meet with and speak to the Senator as representatives of your prestigious organization, and sponsors/volunteers of this largest outreach program of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society!!! Please visit NY-NCW website for additional information at: http://www.newyorkacs.org/meetings/NCW/2016_ncw.php.

We look forward to your organization's sponsorship as we celebrate the important roles chemistry plays in our everyday lives and demonstrate how it can be FUN! Please include theme related activities celebrating solving mysteries through chemistry if you can!! Volunteers' parking at NYSCI is FREE.

Additionally, we are in need of sponsors for financial support to help offset many expenses associated with the event (rentals, goggles, printing, prizes, giveaways, advertisements, etc.). A donation of \$300 is a Gold Sponsor, \$150 a Silver Sponsor, and \$50 a Bronze Sponsor. We also accept any in-kind-donations (printing service, goggles, rentals, balloons, etc.). Please note that ACS in a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, and as such, donations to support local section programs are tax deductible.

As a way of acknowledging your generous sponsorship, we will post your organization's logo on our website, and, if possible, include it in our NCW promotional materials if you email your logos to us. (If your organization has already sent in your logos through your previous year participation, you do not need to resend the logos.)

Thank you all in advance for your support. Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you and your organization's representatives on Sunday, October 30, 2016 at NYSCI!

Sincerely yours,

Ping Furlan (furlanp@usmma.edu), NCW Committee Chair Scott Lefurgy (Scott.T.Lefurgy@hofstra.edu), NCW Committee Co-Chair Erin Wasserman (Ewasserman602z@gmail.com), NCW Committee Co-Chair

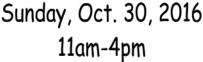
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New York Hall of Science

For more info: newyorkacs.org · nysci.org

North Jersey Meetings

http://www.njacs.org

NORTH JERSEY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING — CONCURRENT WITH NORTH JERSEY CHROMATOGRAPHY DISCUSSION GROUP

Section officers, councilors, committee chairs, topical group chairs, and section event organizers meet regularly at the Executive Committee Meeting to discuss topics of importance to running the section and representing the membership. Attendees will have the opportunity to join the Chromatography Discussion Group for dinner prior to the start of the business meeting.

Date: Monday, November 14, 2016

Time: Dinner joining NJCG

6:30 - 7:00 PM

Place: Room TBD

DoubleTree Hotel 200 Atrium Drive Somerset, NJ Executive Meeting 7:00 – 8:30 PM

Place: Room TBD

Time:

(Teleconference participation enabled)

For reservations please call NJACS secretary Bettyann Howson (973) 822-2575 or email chemphun@gmail.com or register online at http://www.njacs.org by Friday, November 11, 2016

No shows are kindly asked to provide advance notice



CAREERS IN TRANSITION MEETINGS

Job Hunting??

Resume & LinkedIn writing and key word search rules are changing. To be found, come and utilize our latest insights. Our ACS trained Career Consultants offer assistance at Students2Science to help members with their job search on the second Monday of each month. Topics at this free workshop are:

- Techniques to enhance resume effectiveness
- Interview practice along with responding to difficult questions

- · Networking to find hidden jobs
- · Planning a more effective job search

Date: Monday, November 14, 2016

New from now on is a second CIT meeting in East Windsor on the third Monday. Contact Bill for

details.

Times: Meeting 2:30 - 5:00 PM Place: Students 2 Science, Inc.

66 Deforest Avenue East Hanover, NJ

Cost: No charge

Reservations: at www.njacs.org/careers.html

A job board and networking assistance is offered at most topical group meetings. Appointments with Bill can be arranged for personal assistance at (908) 875-9069 or bill suits@earthlink.net

See www.njacs.org under the Career tab for Jobs hidden from sight and relevant blogs.



NJACS PARTNERS WITH STUDENTS2SCIENCE

Members are encouraged to volunteer at their East Hanover facility and explore their website at **www.students2science.org** to learn more about this innovative program.

S2S continues to expand their exciting laboratory experience the disadvantaged children. Many of our members continue to volunteer as mentors. At their 2 million dollar analytical lab, every 40 kids are assisted by 16 professional volunteer mentors. The experiments performed really make chemistry and science come alive using state of the art analytical equipment working with students starting in 6th grade up to HS seniors. Each day is optimized for grade level and curriculum.

Now the program has further expanded with internet video and experiments performed in the classroom for 4th & 5th grades. Internet allows views of the lab in operation and relates to simpler experiments setups done in the classroom with their teacher and a partnering chemist.

North Jersey members who volunteered benefited in many ways. Those in transition expanded their network and received job finding assistance. Retired chemists met up with old friends and made many new friends.

(continued on page 14)

NJACS PARTNERS WITH STUDENTS2SCIENCE

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Those with jobs used the volunteer hours as part of the company outreach programs and team training. All feel great about making a difference in the lives of the youth who may have never met a scientist or considered a career in the sciences.

Please consider volunteering and discovering more about this innovative program. If you want to learn more, you can speak with Don Truss at (908) 334-8435.



CHROMATOGRAPHY DISCUS-SION GROUP — CONCURRENT WITH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Monday, November 14, 2016
Time: Dinner joining Exec. Committee

6:30 - 7:00 PM

Place: Room TBD

DoubleTree Hotel 200 Atrium Drive Somerset, NJ

Time: Meeting 7:00 – 8:30 PM

Place: Room TBD

Call for Nominations

2017 ESSELEN AWARD FOR CHEMISTRY IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

The Northeastern Section of the American Chemical Society is pleased to invite nominations of worthy candidates for the Gustavus John Esselen Award for Chemistry in the Public Interest. This award recognizes a chemist for outstanding achievement in scientific and technical work that contributes to the public well-being. The Awardee should be a living resident of the United States or Canada at the time of nomination, and the significance of this work should have become apparent within the five years preceding nomination.

The award consists of a \$5000 prize and a medal of recognition. Travel expenses incidental to the conferring of this award will be

reimbursed. The presentation takes place at an award ceremony in April at Harvard University, followed by a formal address by the awardee. The award address should be at a level where it would be of interest to an audience that does not have knowledge of the specific field. The tentative date for this ceremony is April 27, 2017.

The award was stablished in 1987 to honor the memory of Gustavus John Esselen, a distinguished member of the Northeastern Section. The first awardees were F. Sherwood Rowland and Mario J. Molina, who subsequently received the Nobel Prize. Several other recipients of the Esselen Award have also been Nobel awardees.

The Esselen Award has no limitations with respect to the chemical field in which the nominees are active. It differs from many other awards in that it is for chemical activities whose importance to the public has been demonstrated.

Nominations shall include 1) a letter signed by the primary sponsor with a description of the nominee's work recognized as making a major contribution to the public welfare and as communicating positive values of the chemical profession, plus the names of two co-sponsors; 2) short supporting co-sponsor statements; 3) the nominee's professional biography including a list of no more than ten of the nominee's publications selected for their pertinence to the work nominated for recognition; and 4) copies of popular and technical press news or feature articles indicative of public benefit and interest.

Inquiries should be directed to Dr. Karl Hansen, c/o Jeananne Piper Grady, 11 Thaxter Street, Hingham, MA 02043. All nomination material must be consolidated into a single electronic pdf file and emailed to karl@amgen.com with a copy to JPiperGrady@gmail.com. The due date is October 15, 2016. Joint nominations are acceptable. The Committee will review the nominations and the award recipient will be notified by the first of February, 2017.

Further information is available at www.nesacs.org/awards_esselen.html. This announcement is to seek nominations of colleagues whose work meets the criteria and purpose of the award.

The deadline for nominations is October 15, 2016.

COMMITTEE ON THE HISTORY OF THE NEW YORK SECTION

Over the past twenty-three years the New York Section has participated in the designation of seven National Historic Chemical Landmarks and four New York Section Historic Chemical Landmarks. A brief description of these National and local section landmarks may be found on the NY Section Home Page at newyorkacs.org, under the Committee on the History of the NY Section. These landmark programs recognize achievements in the chemical sciences and related areas, in order to enhance public appreciation for the contributions of the chemical sciences to modern life.

Please consider making a nomination for an historic chemical landmark. The Committee on the History of the NY Section will consider all nominations. In addition to a particular achievement, an historic library, building or association may be worthy of this distinction.

Please send your nomination, with supporting documentation, to the Chair of the Committee, Dr. John B. Sharkey, at johnbsharkey@me.com.



THE SOCIETY FOR APPLIED SPECTROSCOPY — NEW YORK SECTION

2017 Gold Medal Award

Nominations are being sought for the 2017 Gold Medal Award of the New York Section of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy. This coveted award was established in 1952 to recognize outstanding contributions to the field of Applied Spectroscopy. The Gold Medal will be presented at a special award symposium, arranged in honor of the awardee, at the 2017 Eastern Analytical

Symposium. A nominating letter describing the nominee's specific accomplishments should be submitted along with a biographical sketch and list of publications by January 10th, 2017. Please email all materials to Kathryn.lee@rap-iD.com or mail to Kathryn Lee, Rap-ID Inc., 11 Deer Park Drive, Suite 201. Monmouth Junction. NJ 08852.

This announcement and contact information is also available on our website www.nysas.org

If you have any questions or require more information, you may contact Kathryn Lee at (732) 823-1567.

Call for Volunteers

OPPORTUNITY FOR ACS MEMBERS TO AID STUDENTS 2 SCIENCE IN A HYBRID VIRTUAL LAB PROGRAM

Can you spare a few hours of your time? Do you like working with students and would you like the opportunity to share your science knowledge in a classroom? Students 2 Science is seeking volunteers to aid in our Virtual Lab program. We have a series of elementary, middle, and high school experiments that we will be running in various schools across New Jersey. Members are especially needed to help with the North Jersey section's IPG funded project to bring hands-on science to South Jersey. need professionals to help in the classroom with the students. It's great fun, a wonderful way to give back, and only requires a few hours of your time. Opportunities begin in For November. more information, contact Fran Nelson, frannelson@ students2science.org and visit our website at Students2Science.org

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Call for Applications

WILLIAM H. NICHOLS FFI I OWSHIP

The New York Local Section of the American Chemical Society is proud to announce the continuation of a summer research opportunity for undergraduates, the William H. Nichols Fellowship. The Nichols Fellowship is open to all college students majoring in chemistry (broadly defined) who will perform research over the summer before graduation at an institution in the NY Local Section. geographic area. Each Nichols Fellow receives a stipend of \$5,000 to support them as they perform their research, and is expected to submit a two-page written report at the end of the summer and present their work at the 2018 Undergraduate Research Symposium. In addition, each Nichols Fellow and their mentor will be invited as honored guests to the 2018 William H. Nichols Award Banquet.

Applications are available online at www. newyorkacs.org/NicholsFellowship.php and are due December 15, 2016. All applicants will be notified by March 1, 2017.



FREDDIE AND ADA BROWN AWARD

This Award recognizes and encourages high achieving middle- and high-school students, of African American and Native American heritage, to further develop their academic skills, with views on careers in the chemical sciences

Award Amounts

Middle School \$100.00 Check and \$50.00 gift certificate: High School \$200.00 Check and \$100.00 gift certificate

Who is Eligible

Middle School students enrolled in a science class: High School students who have completed a chemistry course

Grades

Middle School B Average or better in Science, B Average overall: High School B Average in Chemistry, B Average overall

Letter of Recommendation

Math or Science/Chemistry Teachers or Guidance Counselor

Statement

Middle School "Why I Like Science": High School "Why I Like Chemistry"

Selection Criteria

Applicants must be African American (Black) or Native American (including Pacific Islander) or of mixed race.

Transcript

Official transcript required.

Financial Need

Not Required.

Applications available on the web: www.njacs.org/freddieadabrown

or from your school guidance office.

Return Application To

Freddie and Ada Brown Award, NJACS Section Office, 49 Pippens Way, Morristown, NJ 07960

Due Date

Completed Applications must be postmarked no later than **March 31 Annually**

Questions: Contact Jeannette Brown **Jebrown@infionline.net** or (908) 239-1515

Others

ASIR MATERIALS CORPORATION

ASIR Materials Corporation was launched in 2015 to contribute to evolutionary science emanating from the technology sector. Some of the key markets, in which we have an interest, include electronic, automotive and optical materials.

At this time, we would like to graciously request that any entity, academic institution, government laboratory, healthcare facility or privately owned corporation that is looking to dispose of any used glassware, instrumentation, equipment or reagents please consider donating your excess to us. Your donation will lower your carbon footprint and contribute to the health of the environment.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact us at (718) 655-4067 or info@asirmaterials.com. Thank you for your time and attention.

HERE'S HOW NATURAL GAS IS CONVERTED INTO METHANOL AT ROOM TEMPERATURE

Twenty years after the technique was developed, a collaboration between scientists at KU Leuven (University of Leuven), Belgium, and Stanford University has revealed the mechanism behind the direct conversion process of natural gas into methanol at room temperature. This discovery will have major consequences for the future use of methanol in various everyday applications. The findings were published in *Nature*. (Original press release (with images): www.kuleuven.be/english/news/2016/scientists-unravel-how-natural-gasis-converted-into-methanol-at-room-temperature)

Methanol is among the twenty most commonly used substances in the chemical industry. It's used to produce antifreeze, fuels, and solvents, but also in various kinds of plastic that we use every day. The substance is made from natural gas (methane). The large-scale conversion of methane into methanol currently involves various steps under high pressure and at a high temperature, making it a process that requires a lot of energy.

In the nineties, therefore, scientists developed a more direct method to produce methanol – a process that even produces extra energy. However, scientists didn't really understand the process. It was a kind of 'black box' into which they inserted methane, with a big chance that methanol would come out at the other end.

Twenty years later, postdoctoral researcher Pieter Vanelderen from the Centre for Surface Chemistry and Catalysis at KU Leuven (University of Leuven), Belgium, has unravelled the mechanism behind the process in collaboration with chemists from Stanford University.

The chemical reaction involves adding a specific substance known as a catalyst. Many catalysts consist of zeolites – minerals with a porous framework – containing a specific atom. For the direct conversion of methane into methanol, this catalyst is a zeolite with added iron. Professor Bert Sels: "we found that the iron needs to bind to the zeolite in a flat, bound orientation".

"We have provided the first exact definition of what the iron atom looks like that is needed to convert methane into methanol at room temperature. Furthermore, we can describe why this conversion method is so successful," explains Pieter Vanelderen. This discovery may revolutionize the production of methanol and, by extension, all its derivatives that we use in our everyday lives.

"This breakthrough has happened because we were the first chemists to join forces with biochemists to work on this topic," says Vanelderen. "Our colleagues at Stanford are specialized in the use of enzymes as catalysts in chemical reactions. Using methods initially developed to study iron-containing enzymes, they managed to take a 'picture', as it were, of what it is that happens to this iron-containing zeolite during the conversion of methane into methanol. This information allowed us to determine which specific iron atom was doing the work and to find its exact location in the zeolite."

Now that scientists know exactly what the catalyst looks like, they can start imitating and optimizing it in the lab. This opens up quite a few possibilities for the future. For one thing, the production of the methanol needed to produce plastic will become a lot cheaper. The catalyst is also useful for the conversion of nitrogen oxides. It could be used, for instance, to clean the exhaust fumes of cars.

Media contacts

Pieter Vanelderen, Centre for Surface Chemistry and Catalysis, tel.: +32 16 37 67 45, email:

pieter.vanelderen@kuleuven.be.

Professor Bert Sels, Centre for Surface Chemistry and Catalysis, tel.: +32 16 32 15 93, email: bert.sels@kuleuven.be.

More information

This study was coordinated by Professor Bert Sels and Professor Robert Schoonheydt from the KU Leuven Centre for Surface Chemistry and Catalysis, in collaboration with Professor Kristine Pierloot (KU Leuven) and Professor Edward Solomon at Stanford University. Benjamin Snyder, a graduate student at Stanford University, is co-lead author.

The study was funded by Research Foundation Flanders (FWO), and the National Science Foundation of the USA.

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