

NEWSLETTER

A Society for Applied Spectroscopy Affiliate

No. 153

Editors: Francis W. L. Esmonde-White and Karen A. Esmonde-White

Fall 2011

EDITORS' COMMENTS

Over the past few months the Coblenz society has renewed the web site. Among other things, we are looking for feedback on the web site and Newsletter. The fastest way of providing that feedback is through the surveys on the web site (www.coblentz.org/surveys). Information on the web site is kept up to date with current information on awards, society events, and contact information for board members and executives. In the coming year we also hope to improve the Coblenz web site to allow members a Coblenz email address and access to the society member directory. There is also a society calendar listing upcoming events at www.coblentz.org/Membership/society-calendar.

We have changed the publication date of the newsletter so that it will now be included in the printed copy of *Applied Spectroscopy* distributed at Pittcon and FACSS. For more frequent (and informal) electronic communications, Society members should visit the Coblenz site on LinkedIn and the Coblenz web site (www.coblentz.org).

As announced in March, we would like to begin a new phase of the Newsletter by introducing a personal perspective from society members. Of particular interest are photos and anecdotal stories from conferences and member gatherings throughout the year. While as Editors we wish that we could be at every conference, that is simply not possible. We think that a key aspect of better representing society activities throughout the year is member submissions to the Newsletter. Unfortunately, we have not yet received any contributions from society members. In particular, we welcome submissions from members regarding insightful discussions at conferences or those pointing out unresolved topics of general interest where community feedback would be beneficial.

We are also interested in beginning a "Lab Tips & Tricks" column in the Newsletter. It will provide a forum in which methodology, procedures, and helpful experimental information can be shared, particularly for procedures not appropriate for a full manuscript. We anticipate submissions that are one paragraph to one half page in length, though the precise format has not yet been fixed. To contribute a submission to the Lab Tips & Tricks column, please contact the Newsletter editors (contact information listed below).

Unfortunately, we can't accomplish these aims without feedback from society members! Even if it is just a short paragraph about conference sessions or a single contributed photo, we warmly welcome all contributed articles and comments to the Newsletter and the LinkedIn site. The due date for Spring 2012 Newsletter submissions is December 1st. Newsletter requests can be mailed

directly to the Newsletter Editors as noted in the Officer section at the end of this newsletter or submitted through the Coblenz web site (www.coblentz.org/newsletter/newsletter-submissions). We look forward to hearing from you.

Finally, we would like to extend our deep thanks to David A. Heaps for his work in producing the Coblenz newsletter from spring 2009 through spring 2011.

FRANCIS W.L. ESMONDE-WHITE
KAREN A. ESMONDE-WHITE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I'm approaching the midpoint of my first year as President of the Coblenz Society, this Newsletter offers my first opportunity to express my appreciation to Ian Lewis, the former president, who suggested I run, and to all those who voted for me to get the office. Thanks, and I think we can all agree that you've gotten even with me now.

And I shouldn't forget to cite Mark Druy, who withdrew his name from nomination due to a time commitment, assuring that I would be unopposed for election. Tom Sawyer only managed to get a fence whitewashed, and he got an entire book written about him. I'm still trying to think of an appropriate means of memorializing Mark.

I'd like to acknowledge the great job that Ian did as President and the time and effort that he and the members of the Board of Management have put into the society. I can extend that statement to Presidents and Board Members past, whose memories, deeds and observations are a guide for the current Board and Officers of the Society. It is largely thanks to them that I am aware of the great history and the potential of the Society to achieve its mission of expanding the use of vibrational spectroscopy.

One of Ian's concerns that I am continuing to work on resolving is maintaining continuity in the Society. Any volunteer organization has trouble with continuity—a new president takes over and he doesn't know the details the previous president knows; a new treasurer takes over and doesn't know the critical bits that keep the society legal; documents go missing because they're kept in a missing box. Ian pioneered the idea of "living timeline documents," which have already been a great help to the committees that have them and to me. I've worked hard over the past few months to make sure every unit of the Society has a document of this type, as well as establishing a calendar of activities for every committee. We have also created an electronic repository of files to which all officers and board members have access so that we have a defined place for our records and can get to them

easily. There is also some cross-checking between officers and groups to keep everyone on schedule. Francis Esmonde-White has been instrumental in creating our new website and establishing ways for us to collaborate on writing documents (like this Newsletter) using resources in the “cloud.”

At the most recent Annual Members Meeting, we introduced new language to the Bylaws of the Society that make the Treasurer and Secretary elected positions with staggered 4-year terms. The position of Treasurer is the first to come up for election, and we are looking for names of people willing to take on this important role for a 4-year term. Likewise, we are constantly electing new board members and need names of people who can commit to serving their peers for a fixed term for the good of all.

We're also exploring some new initiatives that would expand the role that Coblenz plays in the lives and careers of members, such as through educational activities, certification programs, and development of new databases and tools. In preparation we're trying to make sure all the legal bases are covered for the society. In particular, we're concerned about the kind of liability issues that every professional society has to worry about and are going to soon propose language for the bylaws that would protect the Society's volunteers and its other resources in the event the Society were to need to resort to legal proceedings in the future.

Publicity appears to be a general problem for all the Coblenz-administered awards and activities. In response, the Board has created a Nominations Committee to oversee and coordinate broad dissemination of our calls for nominations for all awards. Prof. Karl S. Booksh has undertaken the job of getting this committee off the ground. Already you may notice that nominations for most awards are being directed to Karl, and you should soon notice more consistent advertising for nominations in a variety of print and electronic media, as well as in conference programs. We're planning to populate the committee with young members of our Society, taking advantage of their energy, but also educating them about the Society and encouraging them to take more active roles. These changes make it possible for the awards committees to remain anonymous and concentrate on the job of selecting the best candidates while at the same time professionalizing and giving continuity to our call-for-nominations process.

Another new initiative for the Society is the creation by the Board of a Historical Instrumentation Committee. Prof. André J. Sommer has agreed to lead this new committee and formulate its mission. During the past summer the Society has helped NIST identify part of William Coblenz's 1905 infrared spectrometers that was unidentified in their collection. Part of the mission of the Committee will be to locate unrecognized, historically important instruments and documents that are either in collections but not displayed or that are not even being conserved at present. We'd like to make connections that will help preserve these instruments for the future, as well as use them to tell a story of the development of vibrational spectroscopy over the past century or more. If you are aware of instruments, components or documents that should be brought to our attention; or if you would like to serve on the committee, please contact Andy.

One further new initiative of the Board is the formation of “Member Study” groups. The first of these was led during the past summer by Dr. Luisa T.M. Profeta. This study represents an effort by the Board to reach out and gain an understanding of the needs of the membership of the Society, and to see new directions for us to consider. The report on the first Member Study will be presented at our semi-annual meeting on the Monday of FACSS (that will be after the morning session in the Shasta I room).

With luck, FACSS will see a new booth for the Society on display

using a banner-style arrangement put together by Ian. In addition, the Board created a Merchandise Committee led by Dr. Ryan J. Priore to explore new items we could provide for sale to members at the booth. The first of these new items is a polo shirt with the new Coblenz logo in color on it, which we hope will be a tasteful addition to our offerings in addition to the usual T-shirts. The same committee has undertaken to provide the officers and board members with ribbons that will identify them at FACSS, as well as to produce labels that members of the Society can affix to their badges to identify themselves to one another. If you are at FACSS, please stop by the booth and make sure you get one.

There is yet more underway at the present time that I've not mentioned here but that I hope to be able to present in more detail in our Pittcon Newsletter, or at least by the next FACSS Newsletter. Without fear of contradiction, I can say that we'll need your help. The Award committees need your nominations; the Booth Committee needs active members; the Board and Officers need constant renewal. And I realize that one of the main roles of the President of the Coblenz Society is to continually seek people to serve on committees. There are so many people required to do the many jobs of the Society that I'm certain to have left out many important names and jobs in this statement, and I sincerely apologize for those omissions.

As a final word: the Coblenz Society is a nonprofit organization staffed by volunteers. Its mission is all about expanding the use and knowledge of vibrational spectroscopy, and in so doing to benefit the lives and careers of those who use vibrational spectroscopy. If you use vibrational spectroscopy, you should be a member. As a member, you are contributing at least monetarily to a vision of the future where vibrational spectroscopy finds more widespread use and where knowledge of vibrational spectroscopy is ever more valuable. And if you are a member, you should become aware of what your Society is doing and offer ideas of your own. Attend the Annual Members Meeting at Pittcon; contact Officers and Board Members; volunteer for positions. Make a place for yourself in this Society of like-minded individuals and help us find new ways to serve our mission.

Best regards to all of you,

Micky



President-elect Micky Myrick (left) presents outgoing President Ian Lewis (right) with a plaque at the March 2011 Annual Members Meeting at Pittcon 2011 in Atlanta.

PAST-PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS

It's Sunday morning, I'm in the confessional and my cell phone just won't stop vibrating—the Newsletter Editor has finally tracked me down!

Looking back over the last two years, it is clear the Society has come a long way down the road to becoming relevant again. Two years ago the combination of the impact of the global economic crisis and a lack of volunteers really dominated meetings of the Society Board. Today the Society is benefiting from an increase in volunteers, new initiatives (as noted by Micky above), and better vehicles for communicating to the Society's membership.

As I noted to the Board before I left office, every 10 years or so the Society has historically looked at what it does that is still relevant and what the memberships and community really need. I am very glad to see that Micky with the current Board is pursuing these questions.

At Pittcon I thanked a number of people for their efforts on behalf of the Society, and I am going to do so again.

Activity

• 2011 Website

• E-blasts & Membership

• LinkedIn

• EAS & Pittcon Members Events

• FACSS & EAS Scientific Program

• Society Infrastructure Support

• Booth Staffing & Coordination

Person

Francis Esmonde-White
with help from

Mark Druy

Mark Druy

Dave Schiering

Brandye Smith-Goettler

Linda Kidder

Kathy Dittman

Gloria Story

Micky ended his column with a plug for members to get involved and volunteer. I would like to remind the membership that the Coblenz Society has zero full-time staff, has no National office to fall back on, and the volunteers devote 100% of their efforts to the aims of "foster the understanding and application of vibrational spectroscopy". Enlist today!

Concluding this section, I want to thank the members and the Board for all their comments and their support while I was president of the Society. I want to also thank Micky for agreeing to take on the role as president, for asking some really good questions (before and after taking office), and to commend him for "hitting the ground running."

I am excited to see progress in the Society and look forward to the future. All the best,

Ian

P.S. Firstly, yes, I am enjoying my retirement, and secondly, I am planning to change my cell-phone number!

HONORARY MEMBERS

In 2011, the Board of Managers of the Coblenz Society elected eight new Honorary Members. It had been fifteen years since the Society created any new Honorary members.

The Society's Bylaws state the following with regard to Honorary Members: "The Board of Management at its discretion, and by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Managers, may elect as Honorary Members of the Society individuals who are deemed to have made outstanding contributions to the field of vibrational spectroscopy or to any other field related to the purposes of the Society."

These members will be acknowledged at a formal presentation during Tuesday night's SAS Reception at FACSS in 2011 in Reno in October. These eight members are D. Bruce Chase, Kathy Kalasinsky, James de Haseth, David Schiering, Dana Mayo, Ira Levin, Peter R. Griffiths, and Kathleen Dittman.

All of these individuals have gone "above and beyond" when it

comes to serving either the Society or the greater Scientific community. It isn't possible in this newsletter to outline all the accomplishments or impact of these individuals or the awards bestowed upon them. However, a quick summary of these contributions to the Society is in order.

• **D. Bruce Chase:** His service to the Society includes President, Board of Managers member, 17 years as Treasurer, awards committees, and booth volunteer.

• **Kathy Kalasinsky:** Former President, Board of Managers member, 21 years as Newsletter editor, committee member, and booth volunteer. Official photographer for the Society for many years. Oversaw a Society re-envisioning during her tenure as President.

• **Dave Schiering:** Board of Managers member, 19 years as Secretary of the Society. As many of you know Dave stepped down at Pittcon 2010 as secretary. However at FACSS 2010 Dave could be found still working towards a database sales agreement and manning the Society's booth at the exhibition opener.

• **Kathleen Dittman:** The unsung "hero" of the Society. Former website manager, book seller, booth shipper, plaque tracker, t-shirt provider, etc. Kathy's work at Miami University, behind the scenes on behalf of the Society, has been transparent to the membership at large but every change to the old website, or every time the Society had a booth at a meeting then Kathy had had a hand in making it happen.

• **Ira Levin:** Former president of the Society and Board member. Oversaw significant Society Bylaws revisions to address changes in the Society in the late 1970s.

• **Peter R. Griffiths:** Former President of the Society, Board member, committee member, and volunteer.

• **Jim de Haseth:** Former Board member, served for 15 years as membership chair of the Society, and volunteer.

• **Dana Mayo:** Former Board member, committee member, and booth volunteer.

Further details and a summary of the presentation will be included in the next newsletter.

Nominations for Honorary Members for consideration in 2012 are now open.

NEWS FROM ICAVS 6 JUNE 2011

The ICAVS 6 meeting was held in Sonoma, California in mid-June 2011. The ICAVS meeting is the product of the union of the ICOFTS and the AIRS series of meetings. The two parents of the ICAVS meeting tended to be focused on infrared spectroscopy but ICAVS 6 featured a significant proportion of Raman spectroscopy. Several hundred vibrational spectroscopists attended the meeting and listened to talks on stimulated Raman, calculated vibrational frequencies, SERS, synchrotron IR, ultra-fast IR, TERS, UV-Raman, QCL developments, data analysis of vibrational spectra, and other topics. The Society provided some support for this meeting although at a reduced level compared to previous meetings. Jim de Haseth, Curt Marcott, and Woody Barton provided the organizational direction and support to make this meeting the success that it was.

The following represents part of the post-conference comments on the ICAVS-6 website: www.icavs6.org/home/

"More than 200 participants presented almost 200 plenary, invited, oral, and poster presentations at the Conference. The organizers thank all the participants who made this Conference a great success. The Program was very well received and the quality of the papers was very high. Participants came from around the world and the exchange of ideas and dissemination of information made the Conference most successful.

The Program Committee deserves special thanks in that they developed a very strong invited program and selected excellent oral

and poster presentations. The Program Committee continued to work throughout the Conference judging student poster presentations. Nine students were recognized and selected to give short oral presentations to the entire Conference. Each student was also awarded a membership in the Society for Applied Spectroscopy (www.s-a-s.org).

The organizers also thank the twenty-two exhibitors and sponsors at the Conference (www.icavs6.org/sponsors/). In particular we thank Agilent Technologies, Horiba Scientific, BioRad Informatics, Thermo Scientific, Unity Scientific, InfraRed Associates, and DeltaNu for sponsorship of some events. The Coblenz Society, the Society for Applied Spectroscopy, IR Courses, and Light Light Solutions sponsored different parts of the Conference.

We look forward to the next meeting in Kobe, Japan, 2013 (ICAVS-7).”

As an attendee I thought that the quality of the student presentations were excellent and in addition the inclusion of a greater portion of Raman content added to the breadth of the meeting.

During the meeting the International Steering committee received three proposals for ICAVS 8. The International Steering committee ultimately selected the bid for Vienna proposed by Bernhard Lendl (Vienna University of Technology) and Mike George (University of Nottingham). Thus the ICAVS meeting will return to Europe in 2015, eight years after the last European meeting, which was held in Corfu.

Contributed by Ian Lewis

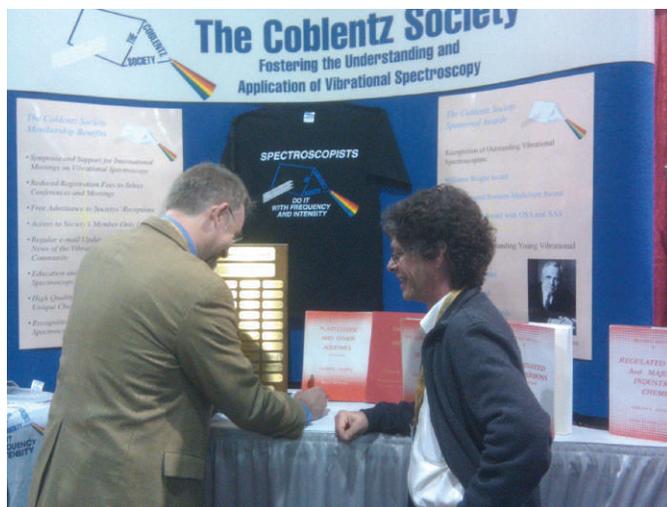
NEWS FROM PITTCON 2011

During PittCon 2011 the Society held its first annual members-only lunch at the Georgia World Convention Center in Atlanta on March 16th. The event was attended by approximately 35 people. Towards the end of the event the attendees were given access to old Society Newsletters and mailings covering the time period from today to the formation of the Society in 1954. We currently have newsletters from 1997 onwards online, with plans to gradually make available the remaining years during the fall and winter.

During the annual meeting, the Coblenz Board voted to raise the age cutoff for the Coblenz Award from 36 to 40 and to make the award a travelling award that will move from conference to conference depending on the preference of the awardee.



Society members at the Coblenz booth, PittCon 2011. Pictured left to right: Gloria Story, Christian Pellerin, Scott Little, Luisa Profeta, Michael Boruta, and Norman Wright.



Coblenz Society Past-President Ian Lewis and Michael Boruta signing a new sales agreement with ACD Labs at PittCon 2011 for distribution of the Coblenz spectral database.

Also at Pittcon, the Society signed a new sales agreement with ACD Labs for distribution of the Coblenz spectral databases.

MEMBER INTEREST: IRDG NEWS AND COLLABORATION

The UK-based Infrared and Raman Discussion Group (IRDG) has been serving the vibrational spectroscopic community for slightly longer than the Coblenz Society (founded in 1954). The IRDG was formed on January 20, 1950 as a national society focused on infrared and Raman spectroscopy. Over the years the IRDG has organized scientific meetings and training courses for vibrational spectroscopists in the UK and recently in Europe (remaining 2011 activities can be seen on the IRDG's website, www.irdg.org). During 2012, the IRDG plans to celebrate its 200th meeting. In 2011, FACSS agreed to support a North American speaker to attend the Christmas IRDG meeting (#197th) and present an invited lecture. The first FACSS-sponsored speaker will be Dr. Bruce Chase. Bruce is an excellent choice as he represents an international spectroscopist who has served extensively the North American community (via the Coblenz Society, SAS, FACSS, and many others) and is considered a “father” of FT-Raman spectroscopy.

In order to promote developments in and the applicability of vibrational spectroscopy and foster collaboration between the Coblenz Society and the IRDG, these societies proposed a session for the 2012 Pittcon meeting: “120 years of the Coblenz and IRDG.” The Coblenz Society has maintained continuous organized sessions in conjunction with Pittcon since 1958. This represents possibly one of the longest involvements of a non-founding society in Pittcon (perhaps some of our older members can provide some background on this) and so Pittcon seemed to be a great location for this session. Professor Mike George on behalf of the IRDG and Ian Lewis and Professor Micky Myrick on behalf of the Coblenz Society generated the preliminary proposal. Unfortunately, the Program committee for Pittcon received numerous proposals and the 2012 proposal for this session was not selected for inclusion in their 2012 program. Despite this initial setback the Society hopes to collaborate with the IRDG and possibly FACSS in future activities. Watch this space for future details!

Contributed by Ian Lewis

2012 WILLIAMS–WRIGHT AWARD

The Coblenz Society is pleased to honor the achievements of Dr. Richard Crocombe with the 2012 Williams–Wright Award. Richard's enthusiasm and aptitude in making advanced technologies accessible to a wider audience is evident throughout his career. Richard has been at the heart of three major revolutions in spectroscopy technology. The first revolution used microprocessors, which converted the room-sized systems of the 1970s to the bench-top spectrometers of the 1980s and beyond. The second revolution incorporated the CCD detector for visible, atomic, and Raman spectroscopies. The third incorporated telecomm photonics technology to shrink spectrometers to the size of a microchip, with the performance and reliability benefits that have been realized in integrated circuits. Together, these revolutions have enabled vibrational spectroscopy to become a widely used analytical technique in fields ranging from polymer analysis to process monitoring.

Richard Crocombe studied chemistry at Oxford University in England. One of his tutors there was Leonard Woodward, a pioneering Raman spectroscopist. The experiences at Oxford sparked his interest in vibrational spectroscopy. After graduating, he went to the University of Southampton in England to earn a Ph.D. with Prof. Ian Beattie. During a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Tennessee, with Prof. Gleb Mamantov, Richard worked on FT-IR spectroscopy and infrared laser chemistry as well as some early work on time-resolved spectroscopy and gas chromatography/FT-IR. His colleagues there included Jim de Haseth and Arlene Garrison.

Richard is also an active member in professional societies. He has been a longtime member of the Coblenz Society, the Society for Applied Spectroscopy (chair of the New England Section in 2004–5 and 2006–7), other professional societies and has organized symposia at major conferences like FACSS, EAS, and the Pittsburgh Conference.

2011 COBLENTZ STUDENT AWARDEES

We would like to congratulate the awardees of the 2011 Coblenz student awards, which will be presented at FACSS 2011 in Reno. Biographies for the award winners follow here, except for the first awardee (also the William G. Fateley student award winner) whose information follows in the next section.



Dr. Richard Crocombe, winner of the 2012 Williams–Wright Award.



Rohith Reddy, William G. Fateley Student Awardee.

Rohith Reddy, Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Professor Rohit Bhargava. His biography and photo are included in the following section.

Nathaniel R. Gomer, Univ. of South Carolina, Professor S. Michael Angel. Nathaniel Gomer graduated from the University of Florida in May 2008 with a B.S. in Biochemistry. During his time at UF, he performed undergraduate research with Dr. Richard Yost, analyzing polypeptides using mass spectrometry. Following his time at UF, he attended the University of South Carolina, where he currently studies spectroscopy under his research advisor, Dr. S. Michael Angel. His research has focused on the development of a spatial heterodyne spectrometer (SHS) to be used for Raman spectroscopy, an undertaking not yet published. He first presented his results at FACSS 2010 in Raleigh, North Carolina and received 1st place in the FACSS Student Poster competition. He also presented his research at Pittcon 2011 in Atlanta, Georgia. His first paper was submitted to *Applied Spectroscopy* in March 2011, with a second paper submitted to *Spectroscopy* in May 2011. He earned further recognition when he was selected to receive a \$2000 travel award from Eastman Chemical during their summer fellowship competition. Nathaniel currently lives in Lexington, South Carolina with his wife, Anabel, and daughter, Sofia.

Esther J. Ocola, Texas A&M University, Professor Jaan Laane. Esther is currently a graduate student in the group of Prof. Jaan Laane at the Chemistry Department at Texas A&M University. Her work is focused on spectroscopic and theoretical investigations related to cyclic molecules with intramolecular π -type hydrogen bonding. Esther attained her Master's degree in August 2002 at Cornell University and her Bachelor's degree at the National Engineering University (Universidad Nacional de Ingenieria), Lima Peru.

Savitha S. Panikar, University of Missouri–Kansas City, Professor James Durig. After completing her schooling in Dubai, UAE, Savitha got her Bachelor's degree in Chemistry and Master's degree in Physical Chemistry from the University of Mumbai, India. Thereafter, she received a post-graduate training fellowship in National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL), during which she was simultaneously applying for admissions to obtain a Ph.D. in the United States. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Spectroscopy at the University of Missouri–Kansas City under Prof. James R. Durig and will graduate soon.

Megan R. Pearl, University of South Carolina, Professor Michael Myrick. Megan R. Pearl (Baranowski) was born in Kankakee, Illinois in 1985. She graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University in 2007 with a chemistry degree and biochemistry minor. She is expected to receive her Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry from Professor Michael L. Myrick's lab at the University of South Carolina where she performed validation studies on a new infrared camera system, conducted extensive experimental work to understand the spectroscopy of coatings on fabrics, and worked on developing unique algorithms for the analysis of spectroscopic imaging data. Her experimental and algorithmic work on molecular factor computing for chemical contrast enhancement gathered significant media attention and landed her several television and phone interviews about the "blood camera." Megan also developed algorithms for the rapid classification of imaged phytoplankton using multivariate optical computing. During her time at USC, she has published six papers, submitted an additional five papers, and authored four patents, one of which was recently licensed to Halliburton Corporation. She is also the recipient of the Murtiashaw Fellowship, Joseph W. Bouknight Teaching Award, Lipscomb Award, First Place Oral Presentation at the USC Graduate Student Day, and the Charles Coker Trustee Fellowship. Upon graduation, Megan will be employed by Sandia National Laboratory in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

2011 WILLIAM G. FATELEY STUDENT AWARD

Rohith Reddy, Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Professor Rohit Bhargava. Rohith Reddy is a Bioengineering graduate student in the Chemical Imaging and Structures Laboratory, headed by Professor Rohit Bhargava at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. His research interests include design of novel instrumentation and imaging technologies for infrared spectroscopy. His current research is focused on creating and enhancing mid-infrared spectroscopic imaging techniques for biomedical applications. His work also presents important advances in using FT-IR imaging for tissue type identification and cancer detection in prostate and breast tissue. Previously, he obtained his B.Tech. and M.Tech. in Electrical Engineering from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras. In his doctoral work he has so far published five peer-reviewed papers, one book chapter, and filed one patent. As a graduate student he has won the FACSS Student Poster Award in 2007 and 2009, the Bioengineering Student Award (2010) and Graduate Student Achievement Award (2009) at the University of Illinois, and co-authored the bronze-medal-winning paper at Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference (GECCO) 2007 held at London.

EASTERN ANALYTICAL SYMPOSIUM AND EXPOSITION (EAS): NOVEMBER 2011

“Celebrating Innovation in Analysis”. First of all, I’d like to extend a big “thank you” to everyone who contributed to the success of EAS 2010. Whether you exhibited your products, presented your work, organized a technical session, taught a short course or simply came to experience one of the many elements that make EAS the special event that it is, it just wouldn’t have been the same without you. Please plan to join us again in 2011. You won’t be disappointed.

In 2011 we will be presenting the 50th EAS. Since 1959, EAS has survived and thrived in good times and difficult times thanks to the hard work and determination of my predecessors, the volunteers that serve as members of the EAS governing board and the many others whom they engaged to make it all happen. I’m proud to say that I’m personally acquainted with 27 past leaders of this event and am humbled and honored to be given the opportunity to serve as President in this important milestone year.

Our theme this year is “Celebrating Innovation in Analysis”. As always, our technical program and exhibition will feature current examples of innovation in the many fields of analysis which EAS encompasses. Our short course and seminar programs will provide an opportunity to expand your knowledge of the fields of interest to you. And in honor of the 50th EAS, we will dedicate a portion of the technical program and some space in the exhibit hall to honor the past by presenting work and displaying instruments that represent important innovative milestones that occurred during our history.

So whether you are a regular attendee or perhaps haven’t been able to come to EAS for a while, please accept my personal invitation to celebrate the 50th EAS with us. I’m confident you’ll be glad you did! Planning is well underway; however, if you would like to reconnect with a member of our team or have a suggestion regarding our celebration, please drop me a note at eas50@eas.org.

DAVE RUSSELL, PRESIDENT
EAS 2011
NOVEMBER 14–17, 2011
GARDEN STATE EXHIBIT CENTER
SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY

ANNOUNCING PITTCON 2012, MARCH 2012

PittCon is compiling a comprehensive and diverse technical program including areas of analytical chemistry, applied spectroscopy, life sciences, bioanalysis, food sciences, and related disciplines. The conference will be held at the Orange County Convention Center, in Orlando, Florida, March 11–15, 2012, and the exposition will run March 12–15, 2012.

The Program Committee is soliciting abstracts of original, previously unpublished findings in all areas of analytical chemistry, applied spectroscopy, life sciences, bioanalysis, and related disciplines such as, but not limited to: chromatography, electrochemistry, portable instruments, mass spectrometry, lab-on-a-chip, molecular spectroscopy, atomic spectroscopy, nanotechnology, biomedicine, neurochemistry, genomics, proteomics, forensics, informatics, pharmaceutical, metabolomics, environmental, polymer, and food science. While the first round of abstracts to be reviewed and placed in the technical program were due by August 12, 2011, authors are encouraged to check the PittCon web site for more up-to-date information regarding abstract submissions at www.pittcon.org.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE COBLENTZ SOCIETY’S AWARDS

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage you to consider nominating qualified candidates for the Society’s awards. Nomination information, requirements for each of the Society’s awards, and online nomination forms can be found on the Coblenz Society’s website (www.coblentz.org).

Williams–Wright Award. This award is presented annually at the Pittsburgh Conference to an industrial spectroscopist who has made significant contribution to vibrational spectroscopy while working in industry. The Williams–Wright Award Symposium is held in honor of the awardee and immediately follows the presentation. The work may include infrared and/or Raman spectroscopy and instrumental development, as well as theory and applications of vibrational spectroscopy. Government labs are not considered industry in this definition. No restrictions are placed on the selection of the awardee because of age, sex, or nationality, but the awardee must still be working at the time the award is presented. The award consists of a framed certificate and an honorarium. In order to ensure that the award is based on an independent evaluation of the candidate’s achievements, the selection is made by a committee chosen by the Coblenz Society.

The nominating document should clearly state the significance of the contribution made by the nominee, e.g., the introduction of novel methods, techniques, or theories; innovative work in the field of vibrational spectroscopy; significant improvement on existing methods, theory, or techniques; or important impact on the field of vibrational spectroscopy arising from the volume of contributions in a specific area. The nomination should include a resume of the nominee’s career and highlight accomplishments and any publications and talks. Seconding letters to the nomination are useful but not necessary.

Files on nominees will be kept active for three years, after which the candidate must either be renominated with an updated file or the file will be closed. Previous recipients of the Williams–Wright Award are: Norman Wright (1978), Norman Colthup (1979), Jeannette Grasselli (1980), Paul Wilks/James Harrick (1981), Robert Hannah (1982), Harry Willis (1983), Robert Jakobsen (1984), Clara D. Craver/Richard A. Nyquist (1985), Abe Savitzky/Joseph J. Barret (1986), A. Lee Smith (1987), Darwin L. Wood (1988), D. Bruce Chase (1989), John F. Rabolt (1990), Robert J. Obremski (1991), Timothy Harris (1992),

Curtis Marcott (1993), John M. Chalmers (1994), Michael R. Philpott (1995), Bob Messerschmidt (1996), Michael J. Pelletier (1997), Henry Buijs (1998), Don Kuehl (1999), John Reffner (2000), Raul Curbelo (2001), Isao Noda (2002), Neil Everall (2003), Neil Lewis (2004), Fran Adar (2005), Harry Owen (2006), Michael Carrabba (2007), Rina Dukor (2008), Jerome J. Workman (2009), Patrick Treado (2010), and Howard Mark (2011).

Nominations should be sent electronically to Prof. Karl S. Booksh, Nominations Committee Chairman, at nominations@coblenz.org.

Coblenz and Fateley Student Awards. The Coblenz Society has for many years encouraged young scientists to pursue studies in spectroscopy by seeking nominations of outstanding students for the Coblenz Student Awards. In 2010, a new Student Award in the name of William G. Fateley was created by the family and former group members of Bill Fateley, in conjunction with the Coblenz Society and the Society for Applied Spectroscopy. Winners of the Coblenz Student Award receive a copy of the Society's Deskbook, a certificate, and a year's membership in the Society. Their names and the names of their faculty advisors will appear in the Society's Newsletter published in *Applied Spectroscopy*. Winners of the William G. Fateley Student Award also receive a \$1000 prize and are asked to speak in the Student Awards Session at FACSS or another appropriate location.

The recipient of the 2011 inaugural William G. Fateley Student Award is Rohith Reddy of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, working with Professor Rohit Bhargava. In addition to Rohith, the Coblenz Student Awardees for 2011 were: Nathaniel R. Gomer, Univ. of South Carolina, Professor S. Michael Angel; Esther J. Ocola, Texas A&M University, Professor Jaan Laane; Savitha S. Panikar, University of Missouri-Kansas City, Professor James Durig; and Megan R. Pearl, University of South Carolina, Professor Michael Myrick.

Nominations are solicited for outstanding students working in the field of vibrational spectroscopy for these awards. Nominations close for 2012 on February 1, 2012. Questions about the nomination process and nominations of students for these awards should be sent electronically to Prof. Karl S. Booksh, Nominations Committee Chairman, at nominations@coblenz.org.

William G. Fateley Student Award: A Special Call for Contributions. The family and former group members of William G. Fateley, in conjunction with the Coblenz Society and the Society for Applied Spectroscopy, created an endowment supporting a student award in his honor in 2010.

A lasting component of Bill's legacy was his encouragement for students to attend professional conferences and meet their peers. He made it a goal to introduce young scientists to the "people" in the field and to get them personally involved. Fostering this interaction was important to Bill; perhaps as much as it was for the Science. His efforts included sending his students to many international conferences. If need be, he even went as far as to bring the social interaction center (disguised as a mobile spectroscopy lab) directly to the conference. Bill's commitment to encouraging students to attend conferences, meet and interact with their colleagues and contribute to the field of Spectroscopy has produced a whole new generation of spectroscopists. And enriched the groups and societies that Bill championed so strongly. This is the legacy that we hope to continue with the establishment of this award.

The inaugural award was presented during the two special sessions at FACSS 2010 honoring Bill Fateley. These sessions consisted of a mixture of presentations from Bill's colleagues and former group members.

The William G. Fateley Student Award is being administered by the Coblenz Society. The Society is currently accepting contributions to

the initial endowment of the Fateley award. Please consider contributing to the formation of this award and continuing the positive impact Bill Fateley had on the spectroscopic community.

Due to his worldwide impact on the field of Spectroscopy, tax-deductible donations to the award fund are encouraged from all of "Wild" Bill's friends, colleagues and professional societies. Funds may be sent to:

"The Coblenz Society/The William G. Fateley Award"
Acct: 5310712830
First Financial Bank
335 South College Avenue
Oxford, OH 45056

For those who prefer to send a check, please mark it as a contribution to the William G. Fateley Award and send it to:

Dr. André J. Sommer
Treasurer of the Coblenz Society
Room 124D, 160 Hughes Laboratories
701 East High Street
Oxford, OH 45056

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Membership. Anyone wishing to join the Society may do so by submitting an application at the Coblenz web site (www.coblenz.org/Membership) or by contacting Dr. Mark Druy, Coblenz Society Membership Chairman, Physical Sciences, Inc., 20 New England Business Center, Andover, MA 01810. Phone: (978) 738-8195, Fax: (978) 689-3232, e-mail: druy@psicorp.com. Dues can also be paid online at the Coblenz web site. Coblenz society memberships can also be obtained in tandem with Society for Applied Spectroscopy memberships through the SAS web site (www.s-a-s.org).

Board Meeting. The Coblenz Society Board will hold its semi-annual meeting at the PittCon conference. Please consult the Coblenz LinkedIn site for further information. Any article of business that you want the Board members to consider must be sent in writing to Michael Myrick, Coblenz Society President (see address at end of newsletter), prior to the conference.

COBLENZ SOCIETY BOARD

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
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