



Coblentz Society Newsletter

May 2021

Greetings and welcome to the late May issue of the Coblentz Society's Newsletter. Yes, this is the Coblentz Society – don't let the new logo fool you! Our new website will be rolling out very soon, so we thought we'd give you a sneak peek of what's to come by previewing our new logo.

Our Newsletter Editor, Savitha Panikar, is tied up with work this month – what's up with those surprise inspections anyway?! – so your Society's VOM (virtual office manager) is filling in for her this month. All errors are completely mine. Lots of great information in this month's newsletter - please be certain to read all the way through!

The Coblentz Award

The 2020 Coblentz Award will be presented to [*Dr. Benjamin P. Fingerhut*](#) of the Theory Department, Max Born Institute at the 2021 International Symposium on Molecular Spectroscopy ([ISMS](#)). Due to the COVID-necessitated cancelation of ISMS last year, the 2020 award is being presented this year. ISMS will be virtual, and a record turnout is anticipated. The Award will be presented Tuesday, June 22nd at 8:00 a.m. EDT followed by Dr. Fingerhut's plenary award lecture "***Noncovalent Interactions of Hydrated DNA and RNA Mapped by 2D-IR Spectroscopy.***"

The Coblentz Award is presented annually to an outstanding young molecular spectroscopist under the age of 40. Nominations for the 2022 award are due by July 15th of this year. More information may be found on the Society's [website](#).

President's Message

Submitted by Ellen Miseo

Here in New England things are improving! Approximately half the population of our New England states are vaccinated; people are going back to school and the office. Of course, that comes with

downsides too - the traffic is slowly going back to “normal”. But I think the upsides outweigh the downsides. And that probably bodes well for an in-person SciX in Providence, Rhode Island this fall.

SciX is still planning an in-person meeting and Coblenz is still committed to significant participation as I mentioned last month. I will reiterate that if you are thinking about going to the conference and are concerned about the expense of the conference in Providence, don't forget that the Society has both [travel grants and dependent care grants](#) available. These are meant to defray the cost of attending a conference that will enhance your career. And they are not only for those submitting papers. One of the best ways to be involved in the community is to attend conferences and this will provide support to attend.

[EAS](#) is also planning an in-person meeting. Four of our prominent members, **Brooke Kammrath**, **Jim Rydzak**, **Brandye Smith-Goettler** and **Suzanne Schreyer**, are active in the conference and are promoting the area of spectroscopy. For those who can't make it to Providence, this will be the first opportunity for a live conference with a big spectroscopy component.

Coblenz members have been busy. **Richard Crocombe**, **Brooke Kammrath** and **Pauline Leary** have finally finished the 2-volume set on Portable instruments and the hard copy books are in print (more below).

Former Society President **Jim Rydzak** is working on new implementations for mentoring and by the time this newsletter comes out, he will have done a virtual networking panel. Don't forget active participation by our members is what it takes to have a successful event!

Board member **Mike George** is working hard to develop relationships with [IRDG](#) (the Infrared and Raman Discussion Group) that would benefit both organizations.

Our website development continues, and the content is progressing. Look for a launch by the end of the month (I hope) and look to the site to provide useful information to members. And as a hint on what is to come, our new logo is being used in this month's newsletter!

Finally – as I mentioned last month, membership renewals are slightly down, probably from the fact that there has not been a live conference. It is easy to renew on the website and if you have forgotten your password, it is easy to reset it (unlike SAS). Mary is willing to help anyone who is really stuck. Your participation in the Society is making our efforts in education possible.

Coblenz Members in the News

Honorary Coblenz member **Dr. Fran Adar** has won the NY/NJ Section of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy Gold Medal Award. This award, presented annually at EAS, honors analytical chemists who have distinguished career achievements and who have advanced their fields by superior work in developing theory, techniques, or instrumentation. Congratulations Fran! [Read more.](#)

Long-time Coblenz member **Dr. Bhavya Sharma** has been named *Spectroscopy Magazine's* 2021 Emerging Leader in Molecular Spectroscopy. The award will be presented to Dr. Sharma at the SciX conference this fall where she will give a plenary lecture and be honored in an award symposium. [Read more.](#)

Long-time Coblenz and former Governing Board member **Dr. Rohit Bhargava** has been honored with the 2021 Lippincott Award. The Award, co-sponsored by the Coblenz Society, SAS, and OSA, honors the unique contributions of Ellis Lippincott to the field of vibrational spectroscopy by recognizing

an individual who has made significant contributions to the field as judged by their innovation and influence on other scientists. [Read more](#).

Dr. Ellen Miseo, our current Society President, and **Dr. Lawrence Ziegler** have been named SAS Fellows for their service to SAS and contributions to spectroscopy. The award will be presented during SciX in Providence, RI.

John Wiley & Sons Publishing has just published a two-volume book, Portable Spectroscopy and Spectrometry, edited by three of our Coblenz members - **Richard Crocombe**, **Pauline Leary**, and **Brooke Kammrath**. Volume I covers "Technologies and Instrumentation"; Volume II covers "Applications". The two volumes provide a thorough treatment of the subject, with over 40 chapters and 1200 pages in all. You can see the contents of these books and sample chapters by viewing [Volume 1](#) and [Volume 2](#).

Upcoming webinars will feature authors of various chapters in this two-volume series. The first webinar: **Portable Spectroscopy within Forensics, Law Enforcement, Safety and Security** will take place Thursday 3rd June, 2.30 pm UK time, 3.30 pm European Time, 9.30 am EST. It features three of our members - **Brooke Kammrath**, **Pauline Leary**, and **Mike Hargreaves**. For more information about the webinars, please click [here](#). To go directly to the sign-up page, click [here](#).

Bulletin Board

Looking to sell a used instrument? One of our members in the UK is looking to buy. Please contact [Derek Robson](#) for details.

Travel Grants and Scholarships – Call for Applications

Looking for funds to support travel or additional learning? In our efforts to support the learning and application of vibrational spectroscopy, the Society has created three grants to assist students and young professionals. Travel and dependent care grants are available! Apply soon if you're looking for financial aid to attend SciX 2021. Details of these grants can be found [here](#). Speaking of SciX.....

SciX 2021

With the vaccination efforts ploughing through full steam ahead, it seems more and more likely that SciX 2021 will resume as an in-person meeting. Get ready to meet at the Rhode Island Convention Center in Providence September 26th through October 1st, 2021. Check out the conference [website](#) for abstract submissions (oral submissions were due by May 17th), program information, award presentations, and more. We look forward to meeting you all at SciX 2021!

What has The Coblenz Society done for you?

If you have been following our past newsletters you are aware that the Coblenz website is undergoing a complete rebranding and renovation. Would you like your words of gratitude (or complaints!) towards the Society displayed on the website? Then send in your comments to [Savitha Panikar](#) or [Mary Carrabba](#) on how you have benefited from the Society and its activities. A few lucky submitters will be selected to have their quotes displayed on the Society's new homepage.

Coblentz Member Discounts!!

Wiley is delighted to support the Coblentz Society through a collaboration in sharing content and offering members discount on all Wiley books, with an extended discount on a specific selection of spectroscopy-related titles.

OFFERS ON BOOKS AND REFERENCE WORK ARTICLES

25% discount to members off all Wiley books. Contact the Coblentz office for Promo Code. (Start Date: 6/1/2021; End Date: 12/31/2022)

40% discount to members off a specific selection of analytical chemistry books (attached list of titles with ISBNs with URLs to print edition on US version of www.wiley.com). Contact the Coblentz office for Promo Code. (Start Date: 6/1/2021; End Date: 12/31/2022)

LINKS TO RELATED WILEY CONTENT

Wiley Analytical Science is a single, subject-based website hosting professional and a selection of peer-reviewed content from five well-established publication-based websites in Analytical Science and Wiley Online Library.

<https://analyticalscience.wiley.com/>

Wiley Science Solutions is dedicated to providing the research community with the latest analytical data to support the important discoveries made every day. These data collections are constantly expanding and evolving to meet the needs of your laboratories. Includes the Sigma-Aldrich Raman Library and the recently acquired Bio-Rad's Informatics Spectroscopy Software and Spectral Databases

<https://sciencesolutions.wiley.com/>

Journals and Related Reference Works

Journal of Raman Spectroscopy - <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10974555>

Luminescence - <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/15227243>

Journal of Chemometrics - <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/1099128x>

X-Ray Spectrometry - <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10974539>

Surface & Interface Analysis - <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10969918>

Encyclopedia of Analytical Chemistry -
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/book/10.1002/9780470027318>

Encyclopedia of Applied Physics - <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/book/10.1002/3527600434>

Peak Spectroscopy Software is offering a 50% discount to Coblenz members for their software! Peaks is the next version of eFTIR, with a re-branded name. For more details, please visit <https://www.PeakSpectroscopy.com/>. Email peaks@tds.net to request the discount.

Amazon Smile

Just a reminder - the Coblenz Society is now part of the Amazon Smile program! Make a difference this year. Shop at smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7212847 to generate donations for the Coblenz Society! 0.5% of your purchase will go to support your Society and its mission. Maintaining our non-profit tax status depends in part on donations from people like you.

And, as always, we would like to hear from you!

Your stories, information and, especially, feedback would add to the diverse perspective we aim at sharing via the Society Newsletter to trigger meaningful discussions at conferences or to simply be passed along for the public's general knowledge. We are soliciting ideas for articles on "This uses spectroscopy?!" to be linked to from the Newsletter. Please send ideas our way.

Thanks for reading!

Mary Carrabba, VOM & Substitute Newsletter Editor