



Newsletter

January 2023

Welcome to the first Coblentz Society newsletter of 2023! I hope our readers have had a pleasant start so far. With the beginning of a new year, there is always hope of scientific breakthroughs, recognition of promising talent - especially from the student spectroscopists, more compassion towards our fellow humans and optimism for a great year ahead.

I remind our readers to keep an eye out for deadlines as they get announced - awards, abstracts and such, conference dates, courses. The Society's editorial team will continue to post dates ahead of time via the Newsletter and News Flashes.

~Savitha Panikar, Newsletter Editor

President's message

Submitted by Zac Schultz, Society President

Happy New Year Coblentz Society! It is the start of a new year, and I am looking forward to seeing what our Society can accomplish this year. It is looking like another exciting year ahead of us.

Our Society will be in Philadelphia exhibiting and participating at Pittcon in March. We will be presenting the Williams-Wright Award to Craig Prater. In addition to the award presentation there will be an award symposium honoring Craig, which should be an interesting session. We will also have the booth staffed as part of the exhibit. We look forward to resuming our in-person activity at this spring meeting.

Several successful activities from last year are planned for the coming months. Stay tuned for more information regarding continuation of the student research exchanges. We are supporting a session at the spring ACS meeting on "Bridging the Gap: Using Gas-Phase and Cluster Studies to Model the Dynamics of Complex Systems." We look forward to continuing speed mentoring. Additionally, we look forward to continuing our work with partners old and new to deliver content promoting vibrational spectroscopy. Stay tuned to the newsletter for more updates.

It is a new year and I invite anyone interested in becoming more involved in the Society to reach out to me or one of our board members. I look forward to keeping everyone informed about the Society's activities in the coming months.

Welcome to our new members!

Regular:

Joel Patrow (Endress Hauser)

2023 Student Awards - Nomination Deadline: February 28, 2023

The Coblenz Society is continuing to accept nominations for the 2023 Coblenz Student Awards and William G. Fateley Award, but there is only one month left! Get those nomination packages ready for outstanding students in vibrational spectroscopy and send them out soon. For details, go to the Society website (<https://www.coblenz.org/awards/>).

2023 Craver Award Announcement

It is the Society's pleasure to announce that **Ishan Barman** is the 2023 winner of the Clara D. Craver Award for applied analytical vibrational spectroscopy. Ishan Barman is an associate professor of mechanical engineering with a joint appointment in the Johns Hopkins Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center. His research focuses on bioengineering, optics, and spectroscopy, with an eye to developing integrative photonics solutions to complex problems in biological research and diagnosis. He seeks to advance photonics methods for applications in clinical diagnosis, and on the comprehensive characterization of biomolecules, the investigation of pharmaceutical drugs and their interaction with biological systems, and on rapid measurements in microfluidic platforms.

Barman received his BTech at the Indian Institute of Technology (2005) and his SM and PhD at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2007 and 2011, respectively. Following a postdoctoral fellowship at the Laser Biomedical Research Center at MIT, Barman established his independent group, the Barman Laboratory, at Johns Hopkins in 2014. By combining optical spectroscopy, chemical imaging, and nanoplasmonics, the Barman Laboratory develops non-invasive approaches in which structural and molecular data converge to provide integrated insight into disease mechanisms.

Pittcon 2023 – Register Early!

After two years of the virtual format, PITTCON will finally return in person March 18-22, 2023, at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia, PA. Register before February 4, 2023, to receive a 30% discount on the registration price. The Williams-Wright Award will be presented to **Craig Prater** of Photothermal Spectroscopy Corp at the traditional award symposium. Non-traditionally, the symposium will be held first thing Monday morning, so make your travel plans accordingly! Check next month's Newsletter for further details. Also make plans to stop by the

Society's booth 1948 to catch up with old friends and see what's happening in the Society. We do have a limited number of free registrations available, so if you're in need, please check in with the Society office.

News from the Society Office

As a reminder, 2023 is the 50th anniversary of FACSS/SciX. A historical display celebrating the milestone is planned for the exhibit. Our Society has formed an ad hoc committee to prepare a Coblenz contribution for this display at SciX; if you'd like to volunteer, please contact the office. OK, some of you old-timers – it's time to step up!

~ Mary Carrabba and Savitha Panikar