



# Newsletter

July 2023

Greetings all! Hopefully, you're enjoying your summer as are many of our Society's Board members and volunteers. Read on to see the latest Coblentz news.....

~Mary Carrabba, Office Manager

## **President's message**

*Submitted by Zac Schultz, Society President*

I hope everyone is having a pleasant summer. I found time recently to spend time with my family and recharge a bit. It is always a treat to step away from regular duties and spend time with people who are important in our lives.

This month I would like to highlight an educational and outreach activities being pursued by the Society. As our website states, "Our aim is to help each other stay up to date on the latest developments in vibrational spectroscopy." There are upcoming activities aimed at addressing this need. In particular, July 25-26 we are co-sponsoring the "Molecular Spectroscopy in Practice" webinar with Spectroscopy Magazine. This webinar includes contributions from several Coblentz members and is likely interest to many others. I encourage you to check it out. More information is available at Spectroscopy Magazine's website: <https://www.spectroscopyonline.com/view/4th-annual-molecular-spectroscopy-in-practice-symposium>

Other upcoming events include SciX in October and EAS in November. We are also continuing the tradition started last year by sponsoring a speaker at the IRDG Christmas Meeting in December. Events are planned for these conferences that I will be highlighting again in the coming months. As SciX is next, please remember to register and join us if you can. There are several short courses being planned that offer additional educational opportunities. In addition, we have a full slate of social opportunities for our members. I hope to see as many members as possible in Sparks!

Lastly, I want to reiterate my invitation to become more involved in the Society. To grow the vibrational spectroscopy community, we need to hear and have representation from all the various groups. I encourage members to consider running for the Board of Managers. Another way to participate is to serve on award selection committees or volunteer for other activities. If you have ideas that might increase the Society's impact, or know of areas where we are falling short, please let us know. I always welcome input from our members.

As always, please let me know how the Society is doing or if you would like to be more involved. I continue to invite anyone interested in becoming more involved to reach out to me or one of our board members. I look forward to representing our Society and keeping everyone informed about the Society's activities in the coming months.

## **Welcome to our new members - we're glad you're here!**

### **Regular:**

Entesar Al-Hetlani (Kuwait University)  
Ayanjeet Ghosh (University of Alabama)  
Hayleigh May (University of Strathclyde)  
Kimberley Orr (Tremco, Inc.)

### **Student:**

Ben Clark (University of Strathclyde)  
Doyinsola Sonoiki (Technical University of Denmark)  
Celine van Haaren (Imperial College London)

## **Last Call for Nominations – 2024 Coblentz Award – Extended!**

Nominations will be accepted through the end of July for the 2024 Coblentz Award. This award is given annually to an outstanding young molecular spectroscopist under the age of 40. This award is the Society's original award (first awarded in 1964), and is the complement of the 'Craver Award' that recognizes young spectroscopists for efforts in applied analytical vibrational spectroscopy. Nominations will close July 31<sup>st</sup>, so hurry and submit your nominations to the Society's Nominations Committee: [office@coblentz.org](mailto:office@coblentz.org). Additional details can be found on the Society's website awards [page](#).

## **EAS 2024 Call for Award Nominations**

EAS Awards are presented to scientists who have distinguished themselves in areas of Analytical Chemistry. In 2024, EAS will recognize the contributions of a scientist who has made **outstanding achievements in the area of Vibrational Spectroscopy** along with several other awards in the analytical sciences.

EAS honorees are selected by independent juries of experts from nominations received by EAS from the scientific community at large. Each EAS Award consists of a plaque, an honorarium, travel expenses to EAS, and the opportunity for the award recipient to deliver a technical presentation at EAS at an Award Session in their honor.

Click [here](#) for information about all EAS awards and detailed submission procedures. Submit your 2024 nomination by Sept. 1, 2023.

## **2023 William G. Fateley and Coblentz Student Awardees**

This year's winners of the Coblentz Student Awards are **Thulya Chakkumpulakkal Puthan Veetil** (Bayden Wood, Monash University, Australia; Karen Edler and Paul De Bank, University of Bath, UK), **Sevde Dogruer Erkok** (Bruce McCord, Florida International University), **Danuta Liberda** (Tomasz Wrobel, Jagiellonian University, Poland), **Aleksandr Razumtcev** (Garth Simpson, Purdue University), **Daniel Schaefer** (Sebastian

Schlücker, Universität Duisburg-Essen, Germany), and **Alexis Weber** (Igor Lednev, SUNY - Albany). **Alexis Weber** has also been recognized with the 2023 William G. Fateley Student Award. More details will be published in our August Newsletter. Congratulations to all our student awardees!

## Society Member News

Congratulations to **Dr. Chelsea Goetzman, PhD** for successfully defending her dissertation this summer! Chelsea has been a very active student member of the Society over the past few years. We wish you all the best with your postdoc position at Savannah River National Laboratory!

Congratulations to student member, **Alexis Weber**, SUNY –Albany, for being named an EAS 2023 Graduate Student Research Awardee! To see her announcement, click [here](#).

Honorary member, **John Chalmers**, VSConsulting, presented the Lord Lecture at Infrared & Raman Courses, Inc.'s annual summer course *Interpretation of Infrared and Raman Spectra*. The Coblenz Society sponsors the Lord Lecture each year. Missed this year's class? Check out the 2024 offering at [ircourses.org](http://ircourses.org).

Society Board member, **Professor Mike George**, and the University of Nottingham's Nottingham Vortex team, were the winners of the Royal Society of Chemistry's #RSCEmergingTech 2023 competition. Congratulations to Professor Mike George and the entire team who won the #EnablingTech category for their continuous-flow Vortex Reactor. Click [here](#) to see all the details!

Several of our members have contributed to the recently published "[Trends in Counterfeit Drugs](#)", edited by Kelly M. Elkins (CRC press).

Chapter 1 – Introduction to Counterfeit Drugs by **Mark Witkowski, Adam Lanzarotta**, Cheryl L. Flurer

Chapter 2 – History and Overview of Counterfeit Drugs Cases by Haley Fallang

Chapter 3 – Fake Pharmaceuticals- Clandestine Tablets and Counterfeit Medicines by Theresa DeAngelo

Chapter 4 – Results from a Survey of Trends in Seized Counterfeit Drugs by Kelly M. Elkins

Chapter 5 – Fentanyl Adulteration of Drugs and Seizure Trends by Kelly M. Elkins and Haley Fallang

Chapter 6 – Detection and Analysis of Counterfeit Drugs by **Brooke W. Kammrath, Pauline E. Leary**, and **Richard A. Crocombe**

Chapter 7 – Trends in Counterfeit Drugs and Toxicology by Kelly M. Elkins

Chapter 8 – Analytical Tools for Examining Counterfeit Drug Products by **Adam Lanzarotta, Mark Witkowski**, Nicola Ranieri, Douglas Albright, Lianji Jin, and **Martin Kimani**

Chapter 9 – Coordinated Response to Poisonings and Fatalities from Counterfeit Tablets by Nikolas P. Lemos

## SAS Event

The Delaware Valley Section of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy is pleased to announce their upcoming meeting. Jonathan Merten of the Arkansas State University Department of Chemistry and Physics will present ***Missing Laser-Induced Plasmas with Atomic Absorption to Understand LIBS' Achilles Heel?***

The presentation will be held on Tuesday, August 8th at 7 pm (EDT) via Zoom. Anyone interested in the topic is welcome to register and join them. The Zoom link will be sent to those who register by August 7. A full abstract is available [here](#). To register, click [here](#) or send an email to [russell.dave@gmail.com](mailto:russell.dave@gmail.com).

## Travel Grants for SciX 2023

SciX is coming up fast! Don't forget that the Coblenz Society awards Travel and Childcare Grants for early-career professionals to assist in defraying the cost of travel to SciX and other conferences. The application deadline is August 15 for fall and winter conferences and January 15 for spring and summer conferences. For more details, see the Society website's [Grants & Scholarships](#) page.

## SciX Short Courses Reminder

Our Society's immediate past-president, Ellen Miseo, has put together an extensive catalog of short course offerings for SciX this October in Sparks, NV. Most of the instructors are Coblenz Society members! Of course, in order to hold a course, there will have to be registrants. Please consider signing up for a course and sharing the course list with your friends and colleagues. The ***Coblenz-produced*** course list is below. For a ***complete list of courses***, please visit the SciX website.

- ***Searching Infrared and Raman Spectra***, ½ day, James de Haseth
- ***Problems with FT-IR Spectra and How to Avoid Them***, 1 day, Ellen Miseo /Jenni Briggs/ Jeff D'agostino
- ***Modern Raman Microscopy for Applications in the Material and Life Sciences***, 1 day, Alexander Rzhetskii
- ***Process Analytical Technology: Out of the Lab and Into the Line***, 1 day, James Rydzak
- ***Introduction to Quantitative Spectroscopy for Near Infrared and Raman Instrumentation***, 1 day, Debbie Peru
- ***The Role, Function, and Proper Use of the Microscope in Microspectroscopy***, ½ day, Dale Purcell
- ***Spectral Interpretation of Vibrational Spectra***, 2 days, Peter Larkin / Mary Carrabba
- ***ABC to PMP: A Project Management Crash Course***, ½ day, Luisa Profeta
- ***Laser Fundamentals for Spectroscopy***, ½ day, Rob Chimenti
- ***Technologies and Applications for Miniature Optical Spectrometers and Spectroscopic Sensors***, ½ day, Richard Crocombe
- ***How to Make Connections: Networking at Conferences and in Higher Education***, ½ day, Alexis Weber
- ***Bioanalytical Methods for Biopharma: Fluorescence***, 1 day, Linda Kidder / Alan Ryder
- ***Practical Raman Spectroscopy***, 1 day, Tim Prusnick / Sarah Shidler

- *Multivariate Analysis for Beginners: Pre-processing and Data Analysis of Raman/IR Spectra in the MATLAB Environment*, ½ day, Cassio Lima

### **News from the Society Office**

Looking forward to seeing everyone at SciX in October! Don't forget our members-only event on Wednesday. Make certain your membership is up to date. Enjoy your summer!

~ Mary Carrabba