



Newsletter

March 2022

Welcome to the March 2022 Newsletter; we apologize for the delay in sending this out. With things getting back to the pre-pandemic normal, I am excited to mention that IR & Raman Courses, Inc. is resuming their Interpretation of Infrared and Raman Spectra course at Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME after a two-year hiatus. This intensive course comprises many hours of theoretical and practical training and is a good starting point for spectral interpretation or can serve as a refresher too. Keep reading for more details.

If mentoring is something you would like to be involved in, our Speed Mentoring event is looking for mentors who can share their experience in navigating the professional world. The event is scheduled to be held virtually on April 6th, so do sign up soon at the link provided downstream.

~Savitha Panikar, Newsletter Editor

President's Message

Contributed by Zac Schultz

As we say goodbye to winter and keep our fingers crossed that the pandemic may be winding down, there are several exciting events occurring involving the Coblentz Society.

The Joint SAS-Coblentz Virtual Student Meeting occurred March 3rd to great success. Congratulations and thanks to Michael George for leading the Coblentz effort. Nineteen students representing research programs in Europe and the United States participated. The success suggests a format for future exchanges to help build connections. It is exciting to see that research and sharing ideas can bring our spectroscopists together.

If our more experienced members are interested in interacting with these exciting students, or if you are an early career member looking for career advice, consider becoming involved in peer mentoring. **Jim Rydzak** has worked with some of our early career members (**Alexis Weber**, **Chelsea Zoltowski**, and **Isabella Goodenough**) to organize virtual speed mentoring coming on April 6th, watch for more information.

Speaking of interacting with our membership, the Coblentz Society now has a job board on its website: <https://www.coblentz.org/jobs/>. We are hoping to provide the one-stop place for spectroscopists looking for positions, or for people looking for employees with vibrational spectroscopy expertise. Job board access does require membership in the Society.

Later in April, we will recognize the Williams-Wright Award winner, Paul Pudney, at Spring SciX in Liverpool, UK. We appreciate the organizers working with the Coblenz Society to help recognize Paul's outstanding achievements.

As we look to summer, consider attending the International Symposium on Molecular Spectroscopy, June 20-24, at the University of Illinois. For some of the more experienced members, this meeting is what "the Ohio State Meeting" evolved into. The 2021 Coblenz Award, the Society's oldest and most prestigious award, will be presented to Sandra Luber (University of Zurich). Several Coblenz members will present contributed papers. We will highlight these presentations in upcoming newsletters. Details about the meeting can be found at: <http://isms.illinois.edu/>.

There's a lot going on as we move into spring and the remainder of the year. As always, I welcome input and suggestions of things you would like to see our Society involved in.

Welcome to our new members!

Lifetime

Simon Lappi (North Carolina State University)

Regular

Nejea Davis (Malvern Panalytical)

Elsa Yan (Yale University)

Student

Andrew Callander (University of Strathclyde)

Hannah Carruthers (University of Strathclyde)

Venkata Swaroopa Datta Devulapalli (Temple University)

Anna Engle (Northern Arizona University)

Spring SciX & Williams-Wright Award Presentation

Owing to the cancellation of an in-person Pittcon this year, the Williams-Wright Award presentation will be made to **Dr. Paul Putney** at Spring SciX in Liverpool, UK.

Dr. Pudney is a science leader in vibrational spectroscopy with Unilever's Beauty & Personal Care Science & Technology group. He has more than 60 peer-reviewed publications with an h-index of 30 or higher. He was nominated as one of the 'Prominent Young Vibrational Spectroscopists' by the journal *Vibrational Spectroscopy* in 2004. He won the Society for Applied Spectroscopy's Meggers Award in 2013, as well as being named runner-up in 2012. He was elected as a Fellow of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy in 2015. Paul is on the editorial board of the *International Journal of Cosmetic Science*. He has also been active in the Infrared and Raman Discussion Group (IRDG) for many years where he currently serves as membership secretary.

Dr. Pudney will present his award address titled "*Spectroscopy in fast moving consumer goods industry*" Wednesday, April 13th at Spring SciX. He will be followed by invited speakers **David Tiemessen**, **Neil Everall**, and **Michelle Bailey**.

For more information on Dr. Pudney and the Williams-Wright Award, click [here](#). For more information on Spring SciX, click [here](#).

Scholarships for IR & Raman Courses

Infrared & Raman Courses, Inc. is back at Bowdoin! We are pleased to announce that this popular course ***Infrared & Raman Spectral Interpretation*** returns to Bowdoin College this summer. The 2022 course is scheduled to be held at Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine, July 11 - 15. The course has been held at Bowdoin College since 1972, except for 2019, when it was offered in Philadelphia, and the last two years when it could not be held due to the COVID-19 pandemic

The Coblentz Society is pleased to offer scholarships to help defray part of the tuition costs for this course. These courses are Coblentz-affiliated activities and have been presented annually for over 50 years, historically at MIT and Bowdoin College. The aim of the courses is to provide a rigorous foundation for interpretation of vibrational spectra.

The application deadline is May 1st - click [here](#) for more information.

Photonics Spectra Spectroscopy Conference **12 - 13 April 2022**

The publishers of *Photonics Spectra*, the Society for Applied Spectroscopy, and the Coblentz Society invite you to attend a free two-day virtual conference. The event will feature webinar presentations discussing the latest trends, technologies, and applications in spectroscopy under four tracks — Emerging Technologies and Applications, Generating Results from Spectra, Biospectroscopy for Monitoring Drug Efficacy and Quality, and Spectroscopy and Photonics in Consumer Goods. Two keynote speakers are planned: **Roger Craig Wiens** of Los Alamos National Laboratory and Purdue University will speak on spectroscopy and the Mars Rover, while Rutgers University's **Laura Fabris** will speak on using surface-enhanced Raman scattering (SERS) to understand drug delivery.

The goal of the event is to provide spectroscopy instrumentation and technique overviews for helping spectroscopists and instrument developers work more efficiently and more cooperatively with one another, within their own teams, and with other customers and partners.

Registration is FREE. The final program can be found [here](#); [sign up](#) today to attend.

This conference program is curated in partnership with the leadership of the Coblentz Society and the Society for Applied Spectroscopy: **Scott Rudder** (OptoSigma), **Dr. Ellen Miseo** (Miseo Consulting), **Dr. Andrew Whitley** (HORIBA Scientific), and **Dr. Richard Crocombe** (Crocombe Spectroscopic Consulting).

Coblentz Society members **Richard Crocombe** and **Ellen Miseo** have a podcast highlighting conference content that just came out on March 29th. Download and listen [here](#). (Note: Ellen and Richard's content is near the end of the March 29th podcast.)

Speed Mentoring is Back!

The Coblentz Society is providing a virtual speed mentoring event on April 6th at 11:45 a.m. EDT. Find out what it's like to work in different industrial, academic, and government areas. Mentors will offer views on what it is like to work in their business and answer questions from the mentees.

Reviews of our live mentoring events have been very positive, but we reach a small audience at conferences. Take advantage of this virtual event! Whether you'd like to be a mentor or a mentee - click [here](#) to sign-up!

Note: we are always looking for more mentors. Please consider serving your Society in this manner. Contact [Jim Rydzak](#) for more information.

Job Board!

The Coblenz Society now has an active job board! If you have an open position, please send the information to [Ellen Miseo](#) and/or [Mary Carrabba](#) and we will post it on the board. After the job is filled, please let us know. Any posting older than 4 months will be automatically removed.

We also are working on a "Positions Sought" portion, so start preparing your information to post once that part is live.

T-Shirts!!!

As part of the Society's rebranding effort, new t-shirts have been produced. Visit the Society's [store](#) to purchase yours now. As always, shipping is free for members. And don't miss out on our old merchandise – check out our store for discounted prices while supplies last!

In closing

Once again, our apologies for publishing so late in the month. Send your content in early to help us publish sooner!

~Mary Carrabba & Savitha Panikar