



# Newsletter

April 2022

Hello all and welcome to the April Newsletter from the Coblentz Society. I would like to, first and foremost, remind our readers of some quickly approaching deadlines: nominations for the 2023 Williams-Wright Award and the scholarship application for IR and Raman courses, both are coming up soon! Details pertaining to both can be found within this newsletter. In addition to the Society's monthly newsletter, occasionally we send out individual News Flash emails too. Keep an eye out for these. The recent news flashes have been related to the Spring 2022 Modern Optics and Spectroscopy Seminar series conducted by The Laser Biomedical Research Center at MIT in a virtual format every week. The series comprise an interesting lineup of speakers scheduled to talk about their research topics. If you have not received these news flash emails, please contact [mary.carrabba@coblentz.org](mailto:mary.carrabba@coblentz.org).

~Savitha Panikar, Newsletter Editor

## President's Message

*Contributed by Zac Schultz*

I want to take advantage of this space in this month's newsletter to acknowledge the all the effort that goes into our Society. As a society of volunteers, our success and energy come from the efforts of our members. I appreciate all the efforts of all our members. This past month, this was evident in several successful events.

I am extremely grateful for all the work Alexis Webber, Chelsea Zoltowski, and Jim Rydzak put in organizing the online Peer Mentoring event on April 6. I also want to thank all the members that volunteered their time to serve as mentors or participate as mentees. My experience as a mentor was very rewarding, and I enjoyed meeting many of our younger members. Several of the early career professionals I work with also participated, and their feedback was uniformly positive. If you are interested, I encourage you to watch for the next installment. We also tend to offer the in-person version at conferences we participate in (e.g., EAS and SciX).

A special thanks goes to Michael George and the Spring SciX organizers for helping us celebrate this year's Williams-Wright Award winner, Paul Pudney. With the cancellation of in-person Pittcon, we were able to quickly pivot and arrange for the award to be presented to Paul as well as having a symposium consisting of both established and early career colleagues honoring Paul. Speaking of the Williams-Wright Award, nominations for next year's award end soon. See our website's awards [page](#) for more information.

Several other members have been actively planning upcoming events. A second Joint SAS-Coblentz Virtual Student meeting, following up on the successful March 3rd event, is planned for May 26<sup>th</sup>. Watch for the

abstract submission form. Registration is open for the ISMS meeting at the University of Illinois, which will feature both the presentation of the Coblenz Award and a Coblenz-sponsored session on vibrational spectroscopy, providing us an opportunity to reach out to the more fundamental vibrational spectroscopy community. For more info visit <http://isms.illinois.edu/>.

Our members are great, and I expect these and future activities will have lasting impact in our community. As always, I welcome input and suggestions of things you would like to see our Society involved in.

## Welcome to our new members!

### *Regular*

David Puchalski (Solis Science)  
Vassyl Shynkar (HORIBA)

### *Student*

Zoe Whalley (University of Birmingham)

## Last Call for Nominations - 2023 Williams-Wright Award

Nominations are still being accepted for the 2023 Williams-Wright Award. The deadline has been extended to May 15<sup>th</sup>. This award is given annually to an industrial spectroscopist who has made significant contributions to vibrational spectroscopy while working in industry. Nominations will close May 15<sup>th</sup> (due to late publicity) so hurry and submit your nominations to the Society's Nominations Committee: [office@coblenz.org](mailto:office@coblenz.org). Additional details can be found on the Society's website awards [page](#).

## 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 Coblenz Society is pleased to offer scholarships to help defray part of the tuition costs for this course. These courses are Coblenz-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 1<sup>st</sup> - click [here](#) 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 Miseso](#) 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. This time it was your office manager's fault. Send your content in early to help us publish sooner!

~Mary Carrabba & Savitha Panikar