Hello all and welcome to the October newsletter! For those of you, like me, who couldn't attend SciX 2022, I hear it was quite a conference. The organizers put up a fantastic lineup of technical sessions and networking events. A notable mention goes to the special reception that was organized to honor present and past recipients of the awards that are traditionally given out in person at SciX. Thank you, organizers, for coming up with this idea! Do read on to know about the happenings...

~Savitha Panikar, Newsletter Editor

**President’s message**  
Submitted by Zac Schultz, Society President

WOW! SciX was amazing this past month. I want to thank all our members who participated and encourage other members to participate in the future. We had great plenary lectures by our Craver and Lippincott Award winners [Wei Min](#) and [Martin Zanni](#), respectively), outstanding student presentations from the winners of the online research roundup presentations, and excellent student posters. While I was struggling to keep my voice most of the week, I still enjoyed visiting with members at the Coblentz breakfast and Wednesday evening members’ event at The Gruff. I also want to thank all the members who participated as mentors and mentees for speed mentoring. I truly felt that the Coblentz Society’s participation at SciX, our official annual meeting, was outstanding and impactful. The Coblentz programming lived up to our tagline: Nurturing Talent in Vibrational Spectroscopy!

Speaking of the Wednesday evening event, I appreciated all the positive comments I received from our members. Special thanks to Mary Carrabba and our student volunteers who organized the event. We were able to recognize contributions to the Society through the repeating slideshow played on screens throughout the restaurant while providing a casual environment for members to catch up with each other after the past few years of virtual conferences that characterized the pandemic. This event characterized what is great about the Coblentz Society, it is all about our members. This opportunity was enabled by the conference moving the Gala to
Thursday night, providing an open evening in the conference. The event was a definite highlight of the conference and something we will look to replicate at future SciX meetings.

Post-SciX, our membership has grown to 531 active members, which is a significant increase over recent years! As President, I see our increased membership as a reflection of the Society’s effort to provide value to our members. Whether that value was entrance to the Wednesday evening event at SciX, discounted registration to SciX, or access to other vibrational spectroscopists; I want to lead a society that people want to join. I want to reiterate my continuing request for programming suggestions from our members. Successful programming occurs because people care enough to volunteer their time. As a society we are interested in hearing your ideas on the ways the Coblentz Society could be better serving the vibrational spectroscopy community. There is some money available to support causes in line with the Society’s interests. If you have an idea, please contact me (schultz.133@osu.edu), our office manager Mary Carrabba (mary.carrabba@coblentz.org), or someone else on the board.

Just a reminder that EAS (https://eas.org/) is also just around the corner (Nov. 14-16), where I hope our participation is equally impressive. As I have commented in past newsletters, several Coblentz members are also receiving awards at this meeting. Speed mentoring (https://members.coblentz.org/Events) is also occurring at EAS for those interested in participating as mentors or mentees.

Elections are just around the corner. We are looking to replace outgoing Board of Managers Peter Larkin and Nancy Jestel with new volunteers. We are also electing the Society Secretary this year. I appreciate people volunteering to serve the Society - please watch for the ballot.

I want to finish by acknowledging the years of dedication and service Ian Lewis has provided our society over the years. Ian decided to step down as the Society’s Treasurer this fall for personal reasons. I continue to appreciate Ian’s counsel and will look to him for informal advice going forward. I thank Ian for identifying a capable successor to finish his term. The Board of Managers has voted to name Nancy Jestel as Treasurer, with whom I look forward to continuing working with. Thanks Ian, the Coblentz Society is better for your involvement.

We have great members, and I look forward to this next year of working with you.

Zac Schultz

Welcome to our new members!

Lifetime:
Joshua Hudson [HORIBA Scientific]
Colin Ingram [Teledyne Princeton Instruments] – membership level change
Chris Manning [Thorlabs] – membership level change
Regular:

Jay Anderson (Photothermal Spectroscopy Corp)
Aniket (PerkinElmer)
Michelle Bailey (University of Exeter)
James Burgess (Berry College)
Erica Cahoon (PerkinElmer)
Tom Cambron (Procter & Gamble)
Malama Chisanga
Kevin Dahl (Particlese LLC)
Dean Dawson (Photothermal Spectroscopy Corp)
Ben Gardner (University of Exeter)
Julia Gao (ABB)
Cindy Gong-Harris (OptoSigma)
Santosh Hodawadekar
Katherine Hollywood (University of Manchester)
Madi Jacobs (OptoSigma)
Dmitry Kurouski (Texas A&M University)
Federico Marini (Sapienza University of Rome)
Phavantha Mao
Enrico Pigorsch (PTS Papiertechnische Stiftung)
Sir Martyn Poliakoff (University of Nottingham)
Yelena Pyatski (Biotools)
Zahra Rattray (Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences)
M. Isabel Sanchez Melo
Chuck Schneider (Agilent)
Rohan Shetty (Photothermal Spectroscopy Corp)
Sergey Shilov (Bruker)
Chady Stephan (PerkinElmer)
Chih-Feng Wang (Pacific Northwest National Laboratory)
Peng Wang (Bruker)
Jason Williamson (Thorlabs)
Erika Womack (Procter & Gamble)
Jacopo Zini (Timegate)

Student:

Roy Aerts
Haona Bao (The Ohio State University)
Aiden Canny (Duke University)
Richard Dummitt (The Ohio State University)
Natalie Dunn
Paula Evans (University of Tennessee Knoxville)
Fernando Fischer
Wilson Garuba (University of Tennessee Knoxville)
Cameron Jordan
Hao-Xiang Liao
Kristen Livingston (University of Central Florida)
Alexander Malinick (University of California, Riverside)
Yechan Moon (The Ohio State University)
Shreya Nuguri (The Ohio State University)
Kimberly Quinn (Florida Atlantic University)
Nicholas Robins (University of Tennessee, Knoxville)
Rebecca Skalla (Indiana University)
Daniel Stuart (University of California, Riverside)
Santino Valiulis (University of California, Riverside)
Abigail Waldron (University of South Carolina)
Kristen Wang (The Ohio State University)
Avery Wood (University of Tennessee Knoxville)
Xinyu Wu (University of Houston)
Siyu Yao (The Ohio State University)

**Applied Spectroscopy Practica Launch**
*Contributed by Peter Larkin, President-elect of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy*

Dear colleagues,

After several years of hard work by many dedicated volunteers at the Society for Applied Spectroscopy, we are launching a new open-access, peer-reviewed journal, *Applied Spectroscopy Practica*. *Applied Spectroscopy Practica* will be published quarterly by SAGE and the papers will be available to all at no charge. The founding editor-in-chief is Richard Crocombe.

*Applied Spectroscopy Practica* will focus on the publication of practical applications of a previously or currently developed field or theory and will be of particular interest to industrial spectroscopists.

We are presently looking for founding sponsors to partner with the Society for Applied Spectroscopy and help support the successful launch and growth of *Applied Spectroscopy Practica*.

Founding sponsors will be acknowledged in the masthead/A pages of the quarterly published journal.

**The general categories of sponsors will include:**

- Industrial corporate sponsors. This will include pharma, specialty chemicals, and consumer products.
- Scientific instrumentation companies
- Government Labs
- 501C scientific organizations [e.g. Coblentz, SAS NE, SAS NY/NJ, IR & Raman Courses]
- Individual benefactors
Where possible we would also look to provide ad exposure for the founding sponsors of *Applied Spectroscopy Practica*. Founding sponsors would also be provided with a direct mailing of all *Applied Spectroscopy Practica* publications to email addresses provided (both quarterly and special collections, Nxtbooks).

**Packages:**

Three different levels of founding sponsorship for *Applied Spectroscopy Practica* will be available: Bronze, Silver and Gold.

- **Bronze Level Sponsor**: $500-$1000 per year. Listed in masthead as founding sponsor each year that they contribute at the Bronze level.
- **Silver Level Sponsor**: $2000 per year. Listed in masthead as founding sponsor each year that they contribute at the Silver level. Also includes two simple third-page ads per year in two of the issues.
- **Gold Level Sponsor**: $5000 per year. Listed in masthead as founding sponsor each year that they contribute at the Gold level. Also includes two simple third-page ads per year in two of the issues. In addition, receives a 10% discount on advertising in *Applied Spectroscopy Practica* and one invitation to submit a scientific paper (undergoing normal editorial process).

Please let us know if you are willing to partner with the Society for Applied Spectroscopy in our new venture to provide enriching growth opportunities to active spectroscopists to better communicate their research. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out to Andrew Whitley (President of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy), Richard or myself. We will be glad to answer any questions you may have.

**Seeking Nominations – Craver Award**

**2023 Nomination Deadline: October 31, 2022**

The Coblenz Society is currently accepting nominations for the 2023 Craver Award. This award is presented annually to an outstanding young molecular spectroscopist whose efforts are in the area of applied analytical vibrational spectroscopy. The candidate must be under the age of 45 on January 1st of the year of the award.

The work may include any aspect of [near-, mid-, or far-infrared] IR, THz, or Raman spectroscopy in applied analytical vibrational spectroscopy. Nominees are welcome from academic, government, or industrial research. Go to the Society's website for more information [https://www.coblenz.org/awards/](https://www.coblenz.org/awards/).

**Conference News –SciX 2022 ….. a successful event thoroughly enjoyed!**

*Sunday Night SAS Student Poster Session*
The Society kicked off SciX Sunday afternoon with a presentation by student member Alexis Weber titled "How to Make Connections: Student Networking at Conferences". The talk was attended by approximately 20 students who were attending their first SciX conference. Alexis gave an excellent overview of how to get the most out of attending a professional conference, dos and don'ts for making a positive impression, good networking practices, and how to effectively follow up with new acquaintances after the conference. Hopefully, Alexis will make this presentation again next year. All our PIs should require their students to attend.

Later Sunday evening, after the opening lecture, the Society participated in the SAS-sponsored student poster session. In addition to our three student awardees - Lamyaa Almehmadi, Sayantan Mahapatra, and Yamuna Phal - many other Coblentz student members participated. Nearly half of the presenters were Coblentz student members or became members later during the conference!

**Annual Members Meeting Breakfast**

Our annual Members Meeting Breakfast was held Monday morning. Approximately 35 members met to caffeinate and catch up with each other before the day’s programming began. Society President Zac Schultz gave an update on the state of the Society and great food – even avocado toast! – was enjoyed by all.

**Speed Mentoring**

*Contributed by Chelsea Goetzman (Zoltowski), PhD Candidate, Zachary Schultz group*

This year the Coblentz Society was able to bring back in-person Speed Mentoring. Student attendees had the opportunity to chat with mentors from industry to academia to national labs. As a student member of the Coblentz Society, I had the opportunity to participate in the virtual event in the spring, however, bringing this event back in person at SciX 2022 in Covington was a great success. The discussions of the 20-some pairs of mentors and mentees sparked many relationships and as moderator it was difficult to talk over all the conversations going on to indicate it was time to switch. Many participants commented on how they just wish they had the opportunity to talk with everyone, and I witnessed ongoing conversations as the week at SciX continued. It was truly incredible to bring this event back to in person and spark mentoring relationships that can continue during the remainder of the conference and beyond.
With the great success of Speed Mentoring at SciX we are continuing the opportunity to hold it in person at EAS 2022 in November in New Jersey. We are striving to have mentors from multiple analytical disciplines to expand the student participants’ interests for various career paths. In addition to Speed Mentoring, the Coblentz society will be honoring Dr. Rohit Bhargava and Dr. Richard Crocombe at the Monday evening Coblentz member reception.

**Wednesday Members-only Reception**

**Contributed by Peter Larkin, President-elect of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy**

The Gruff in Covington, KY was the site of a Coblentz Society Wednesday evening social event at SciX 2022. Over 100 Coblentz members made the two-block walk from the convention center for this memorable get together. The festivities started at 7 pm and continued until 9:30 pm featuring an endless parade of brick oven pizza and salads along with an open bar with local bourbons and craft beer flowing freely. The event was organized by Mary Carrabba who received an enthusiastic standing ovation, when last call was announced at 9:30. A great time was had by all!

**Conference News – TERS-8 2022 Conference**
The 8th International Conference on Tip-Enhanced Raman Spectroscopy (TERS-8) at Sorbonne Université, Paris, France, initially scheduled from August 30 to September 1, 2021, is postponed to November 2-4, 2022. The conference will be held in a hybrid format (online simulcast).

We invite attendees to register as soon as possible. All information is available at https://ters8-sorbonne.com/registration.

**Conference News – EAS ...... approaching soon!**

We get to meet in person again at EAS! Cobelentz has scheduled its Monday night reception for EAS 2022. It will happen after the Plenary Reception [approximately 6:30-8:30] in the Holiday Inn lobby.

This year we will be honoring our two Cobelentz member Awardees from the conference - Rohit Bhargava and Richard Crocombe. Professor Rohit Bhargava, a well-known member of the Society will be honored by the NY/NJ Section of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy and receive the section’s Gold Medal Award at the 2022 Eastern Analytical Symposium. Dr. Richard A. Crocombe, a past Board Member of the Society, will be honored by the Eastern Analytical Symposium with the 2022 EAS award for Outstanding Achievement in Vibrational Spectroscopy.

Richard Crocombe honored for outstanding achievements in vibrational spectroscopy

Rohit Bhargava honored for numerous contributions to vibrational spectroscopy

There will be a buffet dinner served and we will hear from our awardees, who will give some early career advice to our students and young professionals as they talk about their careers.
This is a members-only event so be certain to check your membership status on our website before the conference. Of course, as always, you can check your status at the booth and, if you’re not a member already, that’s a perfect place to join! And, if you procrastinate, you will be able to check your membership status and renew or join at the event itself.

**News from the Society Office**

It was great to see everyone at SCI this year! The traffic through the booth was epic – we’ve never seen so many new members join at a conference before. I’d like to think that this has to do with all the exciting programming and networking we have going on these days and not the “Free Beer” News Flash that went out before SCI. Even if you only joined us for the Wednesday night event at The Gruff, we hope you’ll stick around and participate in all the activities the Society has going on.

A big thank you to Chalapathi Charan Gajjela and Xinyu Wu, graduate students in Rohith Reddy’s lab, for helping me tear down the booth in record time. And another shout-out to the Schultz research group for all their help with speed mentoring and the Wednesday night event. Thank-you t-shirts are headed your way!

Last month I mentioned that lifetime member Mike Carrabba was attending his 35th consecutive FACSS/SCI conference this year. Apparently, no one was able to match his record!

Lastly, the Board of Managers, although they meet monthly, will be holding their “official” meeting on December 2nd. Please send any items of business which you wish to be discussed to Zac Schultz and/or the Society office.

That’s all for this month – we hope to see many of you at EAS next month!

~ Savitha Panikar & Mary Carrabba