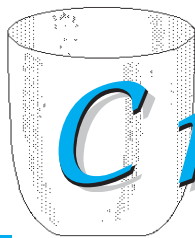




The Crucible



<http://membership.acs.org/P/Pitt>

Volume: LXXXIX No.10

August 2004

National Chemistry Week 2004



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

National Chemistry Week (NCW) 2004 is scheduled for October 17-23, 2004.

The 2004 NCW theme is "Health and Wellness." Each year NCW reaches over 30 million people with positive messages about the contributions of chemistry.

The Pittsburgh Section will be holding a two-day event at the Carnegie Science Center on Friday and Saturday, October 22nd and 23rd, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day. There will be over 25 tables throughout the Carnegie Science Center, staffed with volunteers from area businesses, professional societies, high schools, colleges and universities, performing hands-on activities, demonstrations, and special theater-style shows. Additionally, the Section will be conducting a poster contest for K-12th grade students that will focus on chemistry's contributions to our health and wellness.

The Pittsburgh Section is looking for individuals and groups to assist in coordinating these events and activities. If you have not volunteered or attended a Local Section activity in the recent past, here is a great opportunity to get involved. This could be your opportunity to help educate the public of the importance that chemis-

try plays in the quality of our daily lives. Your participation will ensure that the Pittsburgh Section brings about a positive change in the public's impression of science and will help to promote a positive message about chemistry, particularly to elementary and secondary school children.

For more information about the NCW celebration in Pittsburgh, visit the Pittsburgh Section's website at <http://membership.acs.org/P/Pitt>.

You can also find additional information on the ACS's NCW website at <http://www.chemistry.org/ncw>.

To volunteer yourself or your organization to participate in this year's NCW celebration, contact the Pittsburgh Section's NCW Coordinator:

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michael.mautino@bayermaterialscience.com

2004 Directory of Pittsburgh Section Officers and Committee Chairs Available Online

A complete directory of names, phone numbers, and addresses for Pittsburgh Section officers and committee chairs can be found on the section's website.

<http://membership.acs.org/P/Pitt>

Paper copies are also available. Please contact Pittsburgh Section Chair, Kay Bilal, at 304-723-2358 if you would prefer a paper copy of the directory.

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ACS Pittsburgh Chemists Club

Pittsburgh Section, American Chemical Society

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

"Tools and Techniques Used at Forensic Science Laboratories"

by

Frederick W. Fochtman, Ph.D.

Director, Masters of Forensic Science and Law Program;
Associate Professor of Pharmacology - Toxicology
Duquesne University

Duranti's Restaurant

128 N. Craig St., Pittsburgh PA

6:00 PM Cocktail Time - Cash Bar

6:30 PM Dinner, 7:45 PM Program

For reservations, please call Ed Martin by noon, Friday, September 24, 2004 at (724) 335-0904 or e-mail at esm@icubed.com.

Abstract

Microscopy, spectroscopy, and chromatography with the aid of computerization have become staples in examining forensic evidence. Procedures used for revealing the human genetic code are now routinely utilized to establish forensic identity. How these scientific and instrumental methodologies are used in the laboratory setting will be presented. Examples of cases where forensic science tools played an important role in solving the crime will also be presented.

Biography

Frederick W. Fochtman, Ph.D.

Director, Masters of Forensic Science and Law Program; Associate Professor of
Pharmacology - Toxicology
B.S. (Pharmacy)--Duquesne University M.S.--Duquesne University Ph.D.--Duquesne University

Dr. Fochtman is the Director of the newly developed Masters of Forensic Science and Law Program at Duquesne University. Prior to becoming Director of the Forensic Program, Dr. Fochtman had been a faculty member in the Duquesne University School of Pharmacy since 1978, teaching courses in Pharmacology and Toxicology. He is the author of a number of scientific presentations and journal articles in the area of forensic sciences. He also serves as a board member for the American Board of Forensic Toxicology, and the Drug Testing Advisory Board for HHS. Since 1998 Dr. Fochtman has served as the Director and Chief Toxicologist of the Allegheny County Coroner's Office Forensic Laboratory Division. This section of the Coroner's Office provides forensic and analytical testing services for Allegheny County.

Presidential Events Philadelphia National Meeting Focus On Graduate Education

Presidential Symposium on Changing Needs in Doctoral Education, organized by the Committee on Science and the ACS Office of Graduate Education, Monday and Tuesday, morning and afternoon. See technical program for details.

Lunch Box Forum: Effects of Entrepreneurial Activity on Graduate Education, organized by the Committee on Science, Tuesday, 12:15 PM – 1:45 PM

Related Division Programming:
Creating Complete Scientists: Graduate Student Visions of Doctoral Reform (CHED)

Posters on Chemical Information Instruction (CINF)

Graduate Education in Chemical Informatics: Needs and Opportunities (CINF)

Recent Advances in Nuclear and Radiochemistry: a Graduate Student Symposium (NUCL)

Excellence in Polymer Science Graduate Research (POLY)

ACS Cut and Paste May 2004

ACS Committee On Chemists With Disabilities Travel Awards For Students and Postdoctoral Researchers

Travel Awards for Chemists with Disabilities Announced!

The ACS Committee on Chemists with Disabilities (CWD) is pleased to announce the availability of Travel Awards for students and postdoctoral researchers with disabilities. The program's purpose is to promote presentation of scientific research by individuals with disabilities and provide opportunities to build lasting professional relationships through networking at scientific meetings. The deadline for receipt of the application will be the abstract deadline for the meeting.

For further information on this program or other committee activities, please go to <http://membership.acs.org/C/CWD>, e-mail CWD, or contact Kathleen Thompson 800-227-5558 ext. 8072; TDD (202) 872-6355.

ACS Cut and Paste May 2004

August 2004 / The Crucible

Earth Day Music Video Contest Winners

As part of the 2004 Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (CCED) program, the Pittsburgh Section sponsored a music video contest for students in grades K-12. The 2004 CCED theme was "What do you know about H₂O?" and students were encouraged to produce a music video best illustrating the theme. The competition was open to all Kindergarten - 12th grade students enrolled in public, private, or home schools, within the Pittsburgh Section region. The competition was split into four grade categories, K-2nd, 3rd-4th, 5th-8th, and 9th-12th. Judging was based on evaluating originality, creativity, composition, and relevance to and incorporation of the 2004 CCED theme.

Each 1st place and honorable mention winner received an "ACS" prize package and certificate of participation. In addition, to be split among the team members, 1st place winners received a \$50 cash prize and honorable mention received \$25.

1st place winners have been entered into a national music video contest sponsored by the ACS's Office of Community Activities and Committee on Community Activities. Winners of the national competition will be announced in August 2004, at the 228th ACS National Meeting in Philadelphia, PA.

The winners of the Pittsburgh Section Earth Day music video contest are:

3rd - 4th Grade Category

1st Place

Burkett Elementary School

Teacher Sponsor: Ms. Alyssa Kidd

Title of Video: Water Squad 2004!

Students: Shane Brudnok, Mercedes Bryant, Caleb Cordell, Jenna Conti, Shane Coyner, Elizabeth Hoggard, Corey Crist, Danielle Marzullo, Nicholas Fanase, Lauren O'Conner, Eugene Gracyk, Caitlin O'Donnell, Anthony Marks, Vaishali Patel, Siva Sivaji, Rachel Pecharka, Kayleigh Reiff, Amy Ruhl, Rachel Tuite, Anthony Zukowski

9th-12th Grade Category

1st Place

Deer Lakes High School

Teacher Sponsor: Ms. Jamie Chatlack

Title of Video: It's the Water Everyone Wants

Students: Beth Roginski, Maggie Jackson, Meghan Dugan, Emily Mervis

Honorable Mention

Deer Lakes High School

Teacher Sponsor: Ms. Jamie Chatlack

Title of Video: H₂O - The Water Cycle

Students: Jennifer McPherson, Brittney Bartak, and Kacey Villani

Honorable Mention

Deer Lakes High School

Teacher Sponsor: Ms. Jamie Chatlack

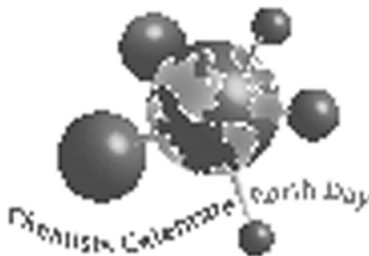
Title of Video: What do you know about H₂O?

Students: Hannah Pollock and Brittany Engelhardt

2005 CCED

The theme for the 2005 Chemists Celebrate Earth Day program is "Air - Here, There, Everywhere." Earth Day is April 22nd.

Submitted by V. Michael Mautino



2004 ACS REGIONAL MEETINGS

Great chemistry is happening at ACS Regional Meetings! For more details, please visit the regional meeting website to link with the individual meetings at www.acs.org/meetings/regional. Abstracts and registration are now open for the six fall meetings.

60th Southwest Regional Meeting (SWRM 2004)

Sept. 29-Oct. 2, Fort Worth, TX

36th Great Lakes Regional Meeting (GLRM 2004)

Oct. 17-20, Hotel Pèrè Marquette, Peoria, IL

39th Midwest Regional Meeting (MWRM 2004)

Oct. 20-22, Kansas State Univ, Manhattan, KS

40th Western Regional Meeting (WERM 2004)

Oct. 27-30, Doubletree Hotel, Sacramento, CA

33rd Northeast Regional Meeting (NERM 2004)

Oct. 31- Nov. 3, Hyatt Regency, Rochester, NY

56th Southeast Regional Meeting (SERMACS 2004)

Nov. 10-13, Raleigh/Durham, NC

ACS Cut and Paste May 2004

Chemical Technicians In The Society

We've Come A Long Way

Anniversaries are times to celebrate accomplishments and consider future opportunities. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Committee on Technician Affairs (CTA), the 15th anniversary of the National Chemical Technician Award (NCTA), and the 10th anniversary of the Division of Chemical Technicians (TECH). You are invited to join in the celebration, increasing the awareness of the role chemical technicians play in industry and the Society, and helping develop opportunities for increased involvement in the chemistry community.

The Celebration

In honor of these three anniversaries, a Presidential Event entitled "A Celebration of the Professional and Scientific Value of Chemical Technicians in the Society - We've Come a Long Way" will be held at the ACS National Meeting in Philadelphia. Opening remarks by ACS President Charles Casey and a keynote address by ACS President-Elect William Carroll will be followed by two panel discussions. One will focus on the changing expectations for technicians and the ways technician education is responding. The second panel discussion will feature previous NCTA winners, the impact of their accomplishments, and the changes they have experienced. The event, which will be held on August 24, is being co-sponsored by the Committee of Corporation Associates.

The Presidential Event will be followed by a special reception and dinner. Past chairs of TECH and CTA, other key players in the development of these organizations, and the NCTA will be recognized.

The Role Of Chemical Technicians In Industry

The anniversary celebrations highlight how, with the ever-expanding growth of technology and chemical applications, the role of chemical technicians in the chemical process industry has made a paradigm shift. Technicians were largely viewed as a "pair of hands" in the laboratory. By contrast, today's technicians are important in technol-

ogy-business teams where they are required to think analytically, solve problems, use current technologies in a wide range of fields, communicate and report findings, manage multiple projects simultaneously, and plan for future directions. Whether employed in government or academic labs, the chemical industry or related businesses, chemical technicians are invaluable members of the scientific team. A common goal of technicians and their supporters is to continue increasing the awareness of the important contributions that chemical technicians make to the national economy and to society as a whole.

The Role Of Chemical Technicians In The Society

The anniversary celebrations honor the milestones of technician involvement in ACS. Since 1964, when the Committee on Technician Affairs (then the Committee of Technician Activities) was established, support for and involvement of chemical technicians has grown within ACS:

- The Committee on Technician Affairs (CTA) charter role is to serve as the Society's governance body that represents and advances the interests of technicians. Over the past 40 years it has proven to be a catalyst for change, benefiting technician members and associates.

- Technician Affiliate Groups (TAGs), the formation of which was an early CTA priority, provide a venue for technicians to become involved with their local sections. By 1972, twelve TAGs were planning programs, presenting continuing education activities and publicizing the contributions of technician to the local chemistry community.

- The National Chemical Technician Award (NCTA) was established in 1989. The recipients of this annual award, listed on TECH's web at <http://members.aol.com/ACSDoCT/techhome.htm>, are now recognized at TECH dinners held at the ACS spring national meetings.

- The Division of Chemical Technicians (TECH) evolved from the National Conference of Chemical Technician Affiliates, a group that worked with CTA to organize symposia, instrument training workshops, and leadership training seminars. Granted probationary status in 1991, TECH attained full division status ten years ago in 1994. Along with planning programming for ACS meetings and maintaining communications with its members via a web site and newsletter, TECH has assumed the coordination of TAG activities.

Opportunities For Local Section Involvement

Chemical technicians, if encouraged to participate in Society activities, can play a valuable role. Inviting chemical technicians to join ACS is just the first step. Opportunities for professional development and recognition must be promoted. In addition to participating in the above activities, chemical technicians serve as councilors, regional meeting planners, and chairs of other committees. The key is identifying more areas at the local, regional, and national levels where these highly skilled scientific professionals can become involved. Chemical technicians have come a long way - but there are still more places to go!

*-Submitted by V. Michael Mautino,
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Councilor Bulletin, May 2004*

You are cordially invited to the Presidential Event celebrating the 40th anniversary of the committee on Technician Affairs, the 15th anniversary of the National Chemical Technician Award, and the 10th anniversary of the Division of Chemical Technicians, at the Philadelphia ACS National Meeting on August 24, 2004.

FALL 2004 SHORT COURSES SCHEDULE

Basic Statistical Analysis of Laboratory Data

October 1-29, 2004

Chemical Engineering Fundamentals – Matters of Size and Scale

What the R&D chemist needs to know

Dates to be announced

Effective Technical Writing

October 18-November 15, 2004

Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy

September 8-17, 2004

Gas Chromatography Basics

September 22-October 20, 2004

Infrared Spectral Interpretation, I

September 8-17, 2004

Interpretation of Mass Spectra

September 14-October 28, 2004

Leadership Principles for R&D

September 14-October 12, 2004

For a complete schedule and descriptions, visit <http://chemistry.org/elearning>.

ACS Cut and Paste May 2004



Councilors' Corner

Report on: ACS Spring 2004 NATIONAL MEETING ANAHEIM, CA

All four of our ACS Pittsburgh Section Councilors were in attendance in Anaheim.

The meeting attracted 14,141 total attendees. This included: 7595 full attendees; 3801 students; 2278 exhibitors; and 467 guests. The Exhibit had 314 companies represented with a total of 496 booths.

By written ballot the Council selected F. Sherwood Rowland and Isiah M. Warner as candidates for 2005 President-Elect. They join E. Ann Nalley, who was certified as a petition candidate for 2005 President-Elect.

The Council elected Connie J. Murphy to the Committee on Committees. Also, Roger Parker was elected to the Committee on Nominations and Elections.

Candidates for District II Director were chosen from a slate of nominees prepared by N&Es. The nominees are Thomas H Lane and Diane Grob Schmidt.

The Council voted to set member dues for 2005 at the fully escalated rate of \$ 123.00.

Membership in the American Chemical Society was 159,332 as of year-end 2003. This number represents a decline of 1% in the overall membership.

The Council voted to formally dissolve the probationary Division of

Laboratory Automation per request of the Division's leadership.

A special discussion was held during the Council meeting concerning the status of partnership efforts between the American Chemical Society and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. Currently the ACS and the AIChE are pursuing a programmatic alliance that will more fully serve the needs of their members and the chemical enterprise, while enhancing both organizations' abilities to achieve their missions. Consideration also is being given to a membership alliance that could include expanded opportunities for members to participate more fully in both organizations.

The Committee on Budget & Finance reported that ACS's overall financial performance for 2003 was favorable, despite serious financial challenges during the year. The Society ended the year with a net deficit from ACS operations of \$64,000. This year-end financial performance was \$811,000 favorable to the 2003 approved budget. And for the first time in three years, the society's financial performance, including investment gains, resulted in an increase to unrestricted net assets.

Submitted by Pittsburgh Section Councilors: Richard S. Danchik (Author), V. Michael Mautino, Brian R. Strohmeier, and Theodore J. Weismann

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The Crucible

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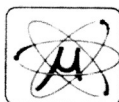
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Pittsburgh Area Calendar

September

- Tue. 28 **ACS Pittsburgh Chemists Club**
“Tools and Techniques Used at Forensic Science Laboratories”
Frederick W. Fochtman, Ph.D., Director, Masters of Forensic Science and Law Program;
Associate Professor of Pharmacology-Toxicology, Duquesne University
Duranti’s Restaurant, 128 North Craig St.

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