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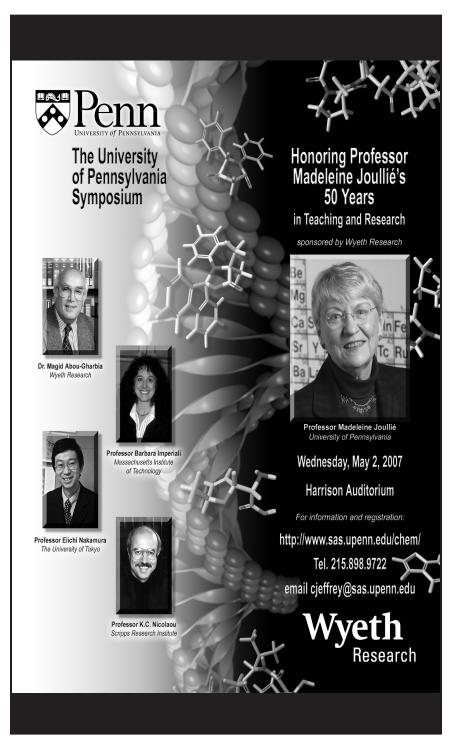
**May 2007** 



MAY SPEAKER
Dr. Bassam Z. Shakhashiri

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# the Catalyst

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#### ADVANCE NOTICE

#### **JUNE MEETING**

50-year Luncheon with Katie Hunt, ACS President Presenting the 50-year Certificates

THURSDAY, June 21st, 2007

See the JUNE issue of *the Catalyst* for details, call the Section Office at (215) 382-1589, email PhilaACS@aol.com

#### From The Chair

#### David Cichowicz



May once again finds the Section very active. We are hosting MARM 2007 at Ursinus College in College ville on May 16-18 and the organizers have planned a wide range of presentations, posters and workshops. For more information, check out the MARM 2007 website at www.marmacs.org. The May Section Meeting will be held in conjunction with the MARM on Thursday evening. The speaker is Dr. Bassam Z. Shakhashiri from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. If you have never had the opportunity to hear Dr. Shakhashiri speak, do yourself a favor and come to the meeting. I have always found him most entertaining! He also has an interesting website at www.scifun.org. Check it out!

This is also the month that we recognize some of the outstanding science teachers in our Section from the elementary, high school and college levels. We will be presenting these awards after the dinner at the MARM. Finally, we are making a concerted effort to keep the Section website up to date. Be sure to visit often for last minute details and late breaking news. The address is http://membership.acs.org/p/philadelphia. If you have any suggestions, send them to the webmaster at philaacswebmaster@comcast.net. See you at MARM 2007 and the Section Meeting!

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#### **NEWS ATOMS**

**Keith Crumley** promoted to director of contract services business, and **Christopher Kulp** promoted to manager of product sourcing at Richman Chemical.

#### **DEATHS**

**Harold A. Green**, retired chemical engineer, November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at 83. He was employed from 1948 to 1957 by E.F. Houghton and Quaker Chemical Co. where he worked on formulation and synthesis of surfactants and lubricants. He then worked for Houdry Process Corp. on catalytic processes for heterocyclic nitrogen compounds.

Green joined Onyx Chemical Company in 1970 where he managed technical operations related to the manufacture and sale of surfactants and biocides. He authored 70 patents. Following retirement from Onyx he was a consultant on anti-microbial products and protection of intellectual property. He was a 59-year member of ACS.

**Newton W. McCready**, retired research manager, January 14th at 90. He was employed from 1941 to 1972 at PQ Corporation, formerly Philadelphia Quartz Company. He joined the firm as a physical chemist and rose to research manager. After leaving PQ he joined Amchem Products where he worked on paint strippers and metal cleaning compounds, retiring in 1983. He was a member of ACS for over 60 years.

Raymond L. Wilkins, retired chemist formerly with Rohm and Haas, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 81. He worked at Rohm and Haas from 1956 to 1981 as a chemist and director of special projects. He served on the Governor's Science Advisory Council of Pennsylvania. Following retirement he obtained a degree in computer science and taught programming at Bucks County Community College. He was a 52-year member of ACS.

Murray Hauptschein, retired research chemist and business executive, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 83. He worked on the Manhattan Project at Columbia University during World War II. He became a research chemist with the Research Institute of Temple University and then worked at Pennwalt Corporation where

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he was director of research and development, retiring in 1982. Hauptschein was the first recipient of the Philadelphia ACS Section Award in 1962. He was granted 85 patents and was author or co-author of over forty technical articles.

Allen Wesley Burger, Jr., retired chemical engineer formerly with Atlas Chemical, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 66. He joined Atlas (later AstraZeneca) in 1962 where he held several positions in research and at the plant where he was executive director of agricultural chemicals. He retired in 1990 as production and engineering director of specialty chemicals for ICI/AstraZeneca.

National ACS recently reported the death of **Arthur Sweet**, a 65-year member of ACS. No further details were available.

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#### William C. Youngblood

**Date and Time**: May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at the Cynwyd Club, Bala Cynwyd, PA; Networking, 5:30 PM; Dinner, 6:30 PM; Talk and Business Session, 7:30 PM.

Abstract: The art of preparing patent applications, including how to draft claims that will likely pass patent office scrutiny and possibly survive litigation will be reviewed. We will also discuss the process of prosecuting a patent application before the US Patent and Trademark Office, and the importance of a patent's prosecution history. Finally, various aspects of patent litigation will be reviewed.

**Reservation:** To make or cancel a dinner reservation, email CCNReservations@aol. com or call the ACS office at (215) 382-1589 by May 5<sup>th</sup> for the discounted price of \$25. Late reservations and walk-ins subject to availability.

#### **SPRING COUNCIL MEETING**

Tony Addison

Council met on March 25<sup>th</sup> in the Chicago Hyatt. From four nominees, Council selected Thomas H. Lane and Howard M. Peters to compete in the Fall election for the office of President-Elect in 2008. The other nominees were P. Confalone and W. Nugent.

The Governance Review Task Force, chaired by Jim Burke, presented several conclusions and recommendations. Some items were: (1) to improve the efficiency of ACS's committee structure and (2) the rate of Councilor turnover, at *ca*. 10% per annum, is viewed as adequate, so that there should be no change in the number of Councilors, and term limits are not felt to be necessary.

A petition proposing new procedures for petition candidates for President-Elect and for Directors-at-Large was presented. These are write-in candidates who may be presented by membership petition in midyear, after Council has vetted the "official" nominees presented by the Committee on Nominations & Elections (N&E) in the Spring. There were two major aspects to the petition. First, to increase the number of signatures on any such candidacy petition from "300 members," to "1% of the Society membership." Many members feel that 300 is a small representation in a society of ca. 160,000. On the other hand, numerous Councilors believe that the need for >1.600 signatures would place an unfair burden on the petitioner.

The second aspect of the petition dealt with an improved procedure for election of President-Elect when there are more than two candidates. For instance, in 2006, a second mail ballot was needed (at a cost of *ca.* \$40,000) because there were four candidates by Fall election time. A preferential balloting procedure was proposed.

Following discussion, these two aspects of the petition were split up. Council referred the question of petition candidacy requirements to N&E. Council voted to pass the preferential balloting procedure.

Another petition was presented, urging Continued on page 80

#### MAY MEETING

#### THE PHILADELPHIA SECTION, AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

#### **Presents**

Dr. Bassam Z. Shakhashiri University of Madison-Wisconsin

#### KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Enlightenment and the Responsibilities of the Enlightened in Communicating Chemistry and

Presentation of Section Teaching Awards

Thursday, May 17th, 2007

Ursinus College 601 E. Main Street Collegeville, PA

Social Hour at 5:00 PM, Lenfest Theater Lobby
Talk at 6:00 PM, Lenfest Theater in the Kaleidoscope Performing Arts Center
Dinner at 7:00 PM, Wismer Center
Dinner cost: \$35.00

**DINNER RESERVATIONS** should be made by calling Mrs. Libby Harper at the Section Office, (215) 382-1589, or emailing PhilaACS@aol.com by **5:00 PM** on **Thursday, May 10th**. **UNCANCELED RESERVATIONS WILL BE BILLED.** 

**DIRECTIONS:** visit www.ursinus.edu/content.asp?page=StudentServices/campus\_map\_ and directions.html#Directions.

**PARKING:** is available in the west campus parking lot (enter campus via Ninth Ave.)

The Board of Directors will meet at 4:00 PM in Pfahler Hall, Room 202.

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## **MARM 2007**

# Forging New Connections in Chemistry 39th MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGIONAL MEETING of the ACS

May 16 – 18, 2007 Ursinus College www.marmacs.org

#### **Symposia**

- Carbon Nanomaterials
   Magnetic Materials
- ◆ Excited Electronic States ◆ Sirtuin Biochemistry ◆ Venture Capital Molecules ◆ Alternative Energy ◆ Microwave Synthesis
- ◆ Glycoproteins ◆ Cope Scholars Symposium ◆ Functional Organic Materials ◆ RNA Signaling ◆ CADD ◆ Chemistry and the Law
   ◆ ADME and Toxicology

#### **Technical Sessions**

- ◆ Analytical Chemistry ◆ Biotechnology and Bioprocessing ◆ Environmental Interfaces ◆ Inorganic Chemistry ◆ Medicinal Chemistry
- ◆ Organic Chemistry ◆ Physical Chemistry ◆ Presidential Symposium on Green Chemistry ◆ Teaching Forensic Chemistry ◆ Ultrafast Chemical Processes ◆ Undergraduate Research

#### **Special Workshops**

- Forensic Chemistry (High School Teachers)
  - Three Chemical Safety Workshops
- Career Services: Interviewing Skills/Resumé Review

#### **Awards**

- E. Emmet Reid Teaching Award
  - Stanley C. Israel Award
  - Industrial Innovation Award
- Chromatography Forum Student Awards

#### **Special Events**

- Walking tour of Ursinus Sculpture Collection
- ◆ Barbecue Mixer ◆ Education Awards Night ◆ Undergraduate Mixer

• Women Chemists Committee Luncheon and Symposium

#### Continued from page 77

that members of N&E should not be brought forward for National Offices (District Director, President-Elect or Director-at-Large) without a one-year waiting period following service on the Committee. There was considerable vigorous debate, following which the petition was defeated by a recorded (Councilor signature) vote of 254 to 151. In this instance, there was a fair degree of reference to *Robert's Rules of Order* to enable Chair Katherine Hunt to keep track of the various motions and amendments. I suppose if you could ever consider an ACS Council meeting to be exciting, this was your opportunity.

A few years ago, Council voted to include a Special Assessment in the annual membership dues, in order to increase support for Local Section activities and Divisional Programming. Coupled with the regular inflation-indexed dues escalator, this would have set annual dues at \$140 for 2008. However, the Assessment was found to be unnecessary for 2008, so dues will be \$136.

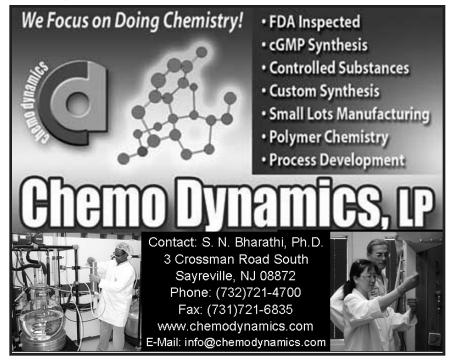
Council also voted to put a multi-year dues payment option in place. Actually, this is currently limited to 2-3 years, but I suspect this option may be extended in the future.

The Society Committee on Education examined the role of "online lab" instruction in Chemistry, and resolved that it cannot be a replacement for "real-life" lab classes, but can supplement them.

Council voted to adopt *The Chemical Professional's Code of Conduct*, as advanced by the Committee on Economic & Professional Affairs. This I view as an important, though short, document which defines a basis for our professional behavior.

The Chemical Safety Committee reported that *Safety in Academic Chemistry Labs* is now the top-selling ACS publication. CSC has also reviewed and commented on the recent EPA *Proposed Rule for Hazardous Waste in Academic Laboratories* (http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/specials/labwaste/index.html).

The Chicago meeting drew over 14,500 attendees, of which 35% were students.



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# SPEAKER'S ABSTRACT AND BIOGRAPHY

Enlightenment and the Responsibilities of the Enlightened in Communicating Chemistry

#### Bassam Z. Shakhashiri

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Abstract: Chemistry is both the central science and the familiar science. The familiarity of chemistry has yet to be fully exploited in reaching all segments of society, especially the non-specialists. Chemistry brings a wide range of goods and functions to everyone and thus is vital to our democracy. Science literacy is necessary for the democratic process to work. I make a distinction between scientific literacy, expertise in a particular field, and science literacy, a broad appreciation and understanding of science and its practitioners, and of what science is capable and incapable of achieving.

Science literacy enlightens and enables people to make informed choices; to be skeptical; to reject shams, quackery, and unproven conjecture; and to avoid being bamboozled into making foolish decisions where matters of science and technology are concerned. Science literacy is for everyone-chemists, artists, humanists, all professionals, the general public, youth and adults alike. We must improve and expand our role in communicating the value of science and technology to students, parents, community leaders, the public at large, and to decision makers in government and the private sector. We must showcase the best of chemistry as it addresses significant human and societal issues. My presentation will include demonstrations to show how science can be communicated to all segments of our society. Students, faculty, and all members of the community are invited. Come learn about combustion, exploding balloons, liquids that glow in the dark, polymers, and other spectacular scientific phenomena.

**Biography:** Bassam Z. Shakhashiri is professor of chemistry at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the first holder of the William T. Evjue Distinguished Chair

for the Wisconsin Idea. He is well known internationally for his effective leadership in promoting excellence in science education at all levels and for his development and use of demonstrations in the teaching of chemistry in classrooms as well as in less formal settings. The *Encyclopedia Britannica* cites him as the "dean of lecture demonstrators in America." His scholarly publications, including the multivolume series, *Chemical Demonstrations A Handbook for Teachers of Chemistry*, are models of learning and instruction that have been translated into several languages.

In 1977, Professor Shakhashiri was the founding chair of the University of Wisconsin System Undergraduate Teaching Improvement Council. In 1983 he founded the Institute for Chemical Education (ICE) and served as its first director. His work with ICE inspired the establishment of the Center for Biology Education, the Merck Institute for Science Education, the Miami University (of Ohio) Center for Chemical Education, among others.

From 1984 to 1990 Professor Shakhashiri served as Assistant Director of the National Science Foundation for Science and Engineering Education. As the NSF chief education officer he presided over the rebuilding of all the NSF efforts in science and engineering education after they had been essentially eliminated in the early 1980s. His NSF strategic plan launched the systemic initiatives and most of the other NSF education programs of the last two decades.

Professor Shakhashiri currently directs the Initiative for Science Literacy and its various programs including Science in the City, SCIENCE IS FUN! Public presentations and web site www.scifun.org, Science, the Arts, and the Humanities, Women in Science, and the Conversations in Science Series.

Professor Shakhashiri is the recipient of over 35 awards, and the recipient of five honorary doctoral degrees. At the spring 2006 national meeting of the American Chemical Society he was voted by the ACS Council as one of two candidates for 2007 ACS president-elect.

# INTERESTED IN WORKING FOR ACS?

We're drawing up the slate of candidates for the fall 2007 election. Specifically, there are openings for chair-elect, directors, councilors and the secretary. The chairelect has several responsibilities, including chairing the section awards and program committees during the first year of the term and running the Section during the second year. Directors form the governance of the local section and meet monthly September-June. Councilors represent the Section at ACS national meetings. The secretary is primarily responsible for taking the minutes at board meetings.

If you would like to run, please get in touch with Deb Kilmartin (kilmartind@msn.com or 610-237-9467) or Libby Harper (PhilaACS@ aol.com or (215-382-1589)

#### 2007 ACS TEACHING AWARDS

The Philadelphia Section Award for Outstanding Science Teaching in the Pre-High School Grades: John F. McGinley Devon Preparatory School

The Philadelphia Section Award for Outstanding Teaching of Chemistry in Grades 9-12: Madeline Fenner Camden Academy Charter High School

The Philadelphia Section ACS Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in Chemical Science sponsored by Merck &

Co., Inc.: Oliver G. Ludwig Villanova University



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#### 588th Board of Directors Meeting Thursday, January 18th, 2007 La Salle University Philadelphia, PA

This is the edited version of the minutes. A full copy of the minutes can be obtained from the Section Office.

**Present:** D. Cichowicz, E. Davis, A. DeMasi, C.J. Bruner, M. Cichowicz, J. Falcone, Jr., M. Falcone, R. Gates, S.R. Mulligan, C. Rulli, K. Thrush Shaginaw, T. Straub, D. Thomas, J. Tierney, V. Tortorelli.

Excused: D. Kilmartin, D. Cook. Absent: C. Bentzley, A. Templeton. Also Present: E. Harper, A. Heldon.

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 PM per Chair Cichowicz. The minutes for the December meeting were approved as amended.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Finance, Budget and Audit: C.J. Bruner reported that an \$8K transfer will balance the budget. However, the Board agreed that the following changes be made: Transfer \$10K into Operating line item and lower MARM income from \$6K to \$4K. The budget will remain balanced. T. Straub motion to approve the budget as amended passed with one opposed.

Government Affairs: A. Heldon proposed that the Philadelphia Section establish an award for public service to science and science education, and that the award be called the Public Service to Science Award or whatever title the Board of Directors considers appropriate. The recipient would be an elected representative or appointed government official. The award would be given for significant furtherance of public sector support of science and/ or science education. Bestowal of the award would be considered annually. The award would be given at such time and on such an occasion as the Board of Directors deem appropriate. The Government Affairs Committee will annually submit the names of candidates to the Board of Directors. The cost of bestowing this award would be limited to the costs of preparing a suitable plaque.

Motion to accept the proposal as written passed unanimously. Board agreed that it makes sense to contact OLGA for nominees.

Nominations Committee (E. Harper for D. Cook): G. Cowperthwaite has agreed to serve as the 2007-2008 MARM delegate. D. Cichowicz recommended that the Board consider J. Summers-Gates to serve as replacement Director for the last year of E. Davis's term, following her election to Chair-Elect. A motion to approve passed unanimously. D. Cook is still seeking an alternate councilor to serve one year.

#### **OFFICER'S REPORTS:**

**Chair:** Chair Cichowicz informed the Board that Madeleine Jacobs would be speaking at the University of Pennsylvania on February 6<sup>th</sup>. The title of her presentation is *Communicating Science to the Public*. The Board agreed that sending an email blast to the membership for this event was appropriate.

Local Section ACS Scholars—Currently 7 students are in the program, though 1 is on academic probation. The Board agreed to appoint an additional scholar next year.

Project Seed—The deadline for Project Seed volunteers is February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

Lilly ACS Travel Award—deadline is February 15th, 2007

January Poster Session —Approximately 18 graduate and 18 under-graduate posters will be presented. Cash awards total \$600 (\$300 donated, \$300 from Program Committee budget).

February meeting— will be at St. Joseph's University. It may not be a teleconferencing meeting. TBA

Chair-Elect: E. Davis has registered for the ACS Local Section Leadership Conference to be held in Baltimore, MD. She requested the Board's support with the 2008 program.

Secretary (A. DeMasi): No report.

Treasurer (C.J. Bruner): The Section's average monthly expenses are \$13K. This figure does not include income or allotments. A summary of activity on the Ullyot Fund was also provided. Signature pages were distributed to Board members who sign on behalf of the Section. The Treasurer's report was approved.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS:**

- J. Burke sent a note of thanks to the Section for the Salutes to Excellence Award he received at the December 2006 meeting. CHF has acknowledged our contribution to the Ullyot lecture.
- L. Harper informed the Board that Philip Rakita is moving to North Carolina but wishes to remain active in the Philadelphia Section as an Affiliate. Approved unanimously.

The USDA site in our Section is being declared a National Historic Chemical Landmark on April 18th, 2007.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 5:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne S. DeMasi, Secretary

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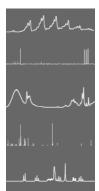
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#### PHILADELPHIA SECTION, ACS 2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE May 2	EVENT Wyeth Lecture and Symposium in honor of Madeleine Joullié's 50 Years of Teaching and Research www.sas.upenn.edu/chem/	<b>LOCATION</b> Univ. of Pennsylvania Museum Philadelphia, PA
May 7	Delaware Valley Mass Spectrometry Discussion Group: David Clemmer: Ion Mobility MS http://science.widener.edu/svb/msdg/	Villanova Conference Center Villanova, PA
May 8	Chromatography Forum of the Delaware Valley: Dr. John Dolan, <i>HPLC Column</i> Selectivity—How to Identify an "Equivalent Column" http://www.cfdv.org	ACE Conference Center Lafayette Hill, PA
May 9	Chemical Consultants Network	Cynwyd Club
	William C. Youngblood: Patent Drafting,	Bala Cynwyd, PA
	Prosecution, and Litigation: The Role of	
	the Chemical Consultant	
May 16-18	ACS Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting (MARM), www.marmacs.org	Ursinus College Collegeville, PA
May 17	Teaching Awards Dr. Bassam Z. Shakhashiri, Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison www.marmacs.org	Ursinus College Collegeville, PA
June 8	Wharton-CHF: Symposium on the Social Studies of Nanotechnology www.chemheritage.org, click on events	Chemical Heritage Foundation Philadelphia, PA
June 21	Fifty-Year Member Recognition	TBA
Aug. 19-23	ACS National Meeting	Boston, MA
Sept. 20	Chemistry of Scents	TBA
Oct. 18	Philadelphia Section Award	TBA
Nov. 1	Ullyot Lecture: Shirley Tilghman Princeton University	Chemical Heritage Foundation Philadelphia, PA
Dec. 15	Herb Bassow Memorial Chemistry Demonstration and Hands-on	La Salle University Philadelphia, PA



Program

Students from Ridley Middle School, Delaware County, sharing the excitement of *Chemists in the Classroom*.