



## **Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh**

### *Meeting Minutes*

*Monthly Meeting*

*January 19, 2010*

*Pappert Hall, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA*

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*Melissa Visnikar opened the business meeting at approximately 8:15 pm. There were 51 members and approximately 20 guests in attendance.*

#### **I. Welcome and 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Melissa Visnikar, 2010-2011 SSP Chair, welcomed everyone and reminded them that it is the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year for the Society. The technical program this year is dedicated to the SSP founder, Mary E. Warga, and all the chairmen who followed her. Happy Anniversary, SSP!

#### **II. Moment of Silence**

Visnikar asked the Society for a moment of silence to honor the memory of Jane Judd who passed away in December 2010. Judd was a chair of the SSP, SACP, and a Pittcon President. Please remember Jane and her family in your prayers.

#### **II. Liaison Reports**

##### ***2011 Pittcon Liaison Report, Penny Gardner***

No report.

##### ***2012 Pittcon Liaison Report, Jon Peace***

No report.

##### ***2013 Pittcon Liaison Report, Ron Bargiel***

No report.

##### ***SACP Liaison Report, Pat Bordell***

The next SACP meeting will be held on February 7th. Seven M. Musser, Director of the Office of Regulatory Science at the FDA, will speak about "New Analytical Approaches to Address Emerging Food Safety Issues."

##### ***ACS (Pittsburgh Section) Liaison Report, Jim Manner for Heather Juzwa***

Heather Juzwa was recognized as the new Pittsburgh Section ACS Chairperson. Her first official duty was to delegate the report to Jim Manner.

Judges are needed for this year's PJAS. It is to be held Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at Keystone Oaks high school. Anyone who can be a judge should make contact with Jim Manner at [manner1@comcast.net](mailto:manner1@comcast.net).

The Job Searching for Chemical Technicians and Job Searching for Chemical Professionals symposia take place on Friday, February 4<sup>th</sup> and Saturday February 5<sup>th</sup> respectively. Pre-registration is required for each. February 4<sup>th</sup>'s program will take place in the Harbor Gardens at Bidwell Training Center from 8:30-noon. To pre-register, send an email to Iesha Griffin (412-323-4000 Ext. 165) at: [igriffin@mcg-btc.org](mailto:igriffin@mcg-btc.org). Your email must include your full name, complete contact information including address, phone number and email address.

The February 5<sup>th</sup> program will take place in the Ashe Auditorium in Chevron Science Center on the University of Pittsburgh Campus from 8:30-4:00. To pre-register, send an email to Dr. John P. Auses at: [jpauses@pitt.edu](mailto:jpauses@pitt.edu). Your pre-registration must be received by Tuesday, February 1, 2011 and include your full name and complete contact information including address, phone number, email address and whether or not you expect to participate in the resume review. Academic registrants should include university affiliation and university department. Let us know when you expect to complete your B.S., M.S., Ph.D., post-doc, or other assignment.

**SAS Liaison Report, John Jackovitz**

The SSP is the Pittsburgh section of SAS. At Pittcon 2011, SAS will sponsor two symposia, one on molecular spectroscopy organized by Peter Griffiths and the other on atomic spectroscopy organized by Gary Hieftje. These are usually very well attended sessions. SAS also sponsors a Sunday Poster Session for students and will do so also at Pittcon2011.

### III. Executive Council Reports

**Secretary, Helen Boylan**

No report.

**Treasurer, Linda Rukavina**

The treasurer's reports for July through December was presented.

**Chair-Elect, Greg Meisner**

The next Technical Program will be held on February 16, 2011. Professor Catherine Fenselau, University of Maryland, will speak on "Rapid analysis of bacteria using mass spectrometry-based proteomics."

### IV. Committee Reports/Announcements

**Committee Arrangements, Melissa Visnikar**

Parking chits were offered. Visnikar thanked Denise Wilkins and her committee for arranging a wonderful meal.

**Technology Forum, Heather Juzwa for Manny Miller**

Jeff Smith from the Department of Environmental Protection in Pittsburgh presented "A Field Trip to the World Famous Las Choyas Geode Mine, Chihuahua, Mexico." There were 29 in attendance. Please don't miss the February SSP Technology Forum. On February 16<sup>th</sup> Dr. Conrad (Dan) Volz, Jr. from the University of Pittsburgh will speak about "Concerns of Natural Gas Extraction from Marcellus Shale."

**Continuing Education, Dave Vanishak**

No report.

**Publicity, Bob Witcowski**

WDUQ, 90.5 FM, will present a series of announcements, from January 17 through January 28, 2011, during their regular programming, as "Support for DUQ comes from the Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh; since 1946, dedicated to the promotion of science education – celebrating its 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary during 2011, the International Year of Chemistry (IYC)."

A collector quality 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary poster design has been completed. It features a Bunsen-Kirchhoff type spectroscope; the print was provided to the SSP by the Chemical Heritage Foundation. Jenna Sabot, SSP Administrative Assistant, was the coordinator of this effort. The poster is 11 x 17 inches and will be printed by Express Press Inc. Contact Jenna to obtain a copy.

The quarterly journal, *Philatelia Chimica et Physica (PCP)*, currently being indexed in Chemical Abstracts, will prepare a special issue dedicated to celebrate the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the SSP and the IYC. Foil Miller and Bob Witkowski will write the feature article detailing the history of the SSP.

Geoff White will investigate the possibility of obtaining a Mayor's Proclamation from Pittsburgh related to the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the SSP and the IYC.

### ***Herb Retcofsky Spectroscopy Demonstration Series, John Varine***

Hub MacDonald and John Varine conducted the following "Light, Color & Spectroscopy for Kids" Workshops since the last SSP Meeting:

- An half-day version of the workshop on Dec. 2 at the Pennsylvania Science Teachers Assn. Convention in Hershey, PA
- A full version of the workshop at the National Energy Technology Laboratory in South Park on Jan. 13.
- An abbreviated version of the workshop at the Triple E Seminar at NETL on Jan. 20.
- We are scheduled to conduct a full version of the workshop at Intermediate Unit #4 in Grove City on Jan. 24.
- We are scheduled to conduct a half-day version of the workshop during Science Week at Pittcon 2011 in Atlanta.

### ***Employment Workshop, Hub MacDonald***

The Spectroscopy Society along with the Society for Analytical Chemist of Pittsburgh, the American Chemical Society and the American Institute for Chemical Engineers, organize and present a workshop to help job searchers improve their resume' preparation skills, job interviewing skills and provide ideas of the availability of jobs in the local job market. This year's workshops will be on Feb 4 at the Bidwell Training Center (tailored for Chemical Technicians) and Feb 5 at the University of Pittsburgh (tailored for Chemical Professionals)..

Flyers for these workshops have been placed on the registration table outside this room for both workshops. Please take a flyer and post it in a public place at your workplace. These flyers are also linked on our website. Full registration information is on these flyers.

Dr. Dan Eustace and Dr. Joseph Jolson will be the speakers. In the past, attendees have highly rated their presentations and the information they have passed along. Attendees also appreciate the individual attention they receive during the resume review of the workshop.

## **VI. Old Business**

### ***October 2010 Meeting Minutes, Melissa Visnikar***

There were no additions or changes to the meeting minutes. Larry Irr made the motion to approve the meeting minutes, and Bob Witcowski seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

***July-December 2010 Treasurer's Reports, Melissa Visnikar***

There were no additions or changes to the treasurer's reports. Rich Danchik made the motion to approve the report, and Greg Meisner seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

**VIII. New Business/Announcements**

***Iota Sigma Pi, Michelle Muscatello***

Iota Sigma Pi is a national honor society for women in chemistry. The Pittsburgh area is establishing a chapter of this organization. Interested women can contact Michelle Muscatello at muscat@pitt.edu for more information.

***Updates on Members, Melissa Visnikar***

Best wishes for a speedy recovery for Debbie Hreha and John Timbario.

***Pittcon 2013 Treasurer, Melissa Visnikar***

In the following odd numbered year, the new Pittsburgh Conference President-Designate shall submit to the SSP Executive Council for approval, his nomination for Treasurer to serve during his term as President." On behalf of the 2010-2011 SSP Executive Council, it is my honor as the SSP Chairman to announce the 2013 Pittsburgh Conference Treasurer:

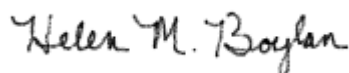
*Dr. Hubert C. MacDonald (2009-2010 SSP Chairman)*

Please join me in congratulating Hub on his nomination.

*Denise Wilkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Jim Manner seconded the motion. The business meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 pm. The technical program followed the business meeting. Greg Meisner introduced John Jackovitz who introduced Dr. Richard Dluhy from the University of Georgia who spoke about "Novel Nanorod Array Substrates as a Platform for SERS-Based Biosensing of Infectious Disease."*

***Note: red text denotes actionable items that required a vote.***

Respectfully submitted,



Helen M. Boylan  
2010-2011 SSP Secretary