



Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh

Meeting Minutes

Monthly Meeting

February 16, 2011

Pappert Hall, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

Melissa Visnikar opened the business meeting at approximately 8:00 pm. There were 57 members and 3 guests (who signed in) in attendance.

I. Welcome

Melissa Visnikar, 2010-2011 SSP Chair, welcomed everyone and reminded them that last year the February SSP meeting was cancelled due to weather. A special thank you to Denise Wilkins and her committee and Duquesne University for the wonderful arrangements for our monthly meetings.

Visnikar personally welcomed the technical program speaker, the winner of the 2010 Pittsburgh Conference Adams Award, Professor Catherine Fenselau. It is an honor to have her with us this evening.

Visnikar stressed the importance of the 65th Anniversary year for the Society. It is time to remember our founder, Mary E. Warga, and all the chairmen who followed her. Enjoy the dinner meetings, our programs and speakers to foster friendship, ideas, and bonds that support the growth of our organization.

The technical program is dedicated to our founder, Mary Warga, and all SSP Chairmen who followed her. Happy Anniversary SSP!

II. Liaison Reports

2011 Pittcon Liaison Report, Penny Gardner

Gardner reminded everyone that Pittcon 2011 is three weeks away, but there is still time to register. Exhibitor booth space has been sold out. Gardner also reminded everyone about the Pittcon mobile app for making one's schedule at the conference.

2012 Pittcon Liaison Report, Jon Peace

No report.

2013 Pittcon Liaison Report, Ron Bargiel

No report.

2014 Pittcon Liaison Report, Melissa Visnikar

Congratulations to Janeth Pifer who has been named the president for Pittcon 2014.

SACP Liaison Report, Melissa Visnikar for Pat Bordell

The next SACP meeting will be our Former Chair Night which will be held on April 4th. The dinner will be in the Duquesne Room with the Technical meeting in Laura Falk Hall. Our speaker is Larry Bowers, Ph.D and Chief Science Officer for the US Anti-Doping Agency. His talk is titled, "*Analytical Challenge in Deterring Performance-Enhancing Drugs in Sport.*"

The SACP/ACS Awards banquet will be held on Monday, May 16th in the Duquesne University Power Center Ballroom which is the new building across the street from the Forbes Avenue

Parking Garage. Go to the 8th floor of the Parking Garage, and turn right to take the overhead walkway. The Ballroom is directly across from the glass doors as you exit the walkway.

ACS (Pittsburgh Section) Liaison Report, Jim Manner

**Seventy-Seventh Annual PJAS Region 7 Student Presentations
February 5, 2011 at Keystone HS**

The seventy-seventh PJAS grade 7-12 student presentations were held on Saturday, February 5, 2011 at Keystone HS. In continuing the tradition started by Ted Weisman, of Duquesne University, the Pittsburgh Section of ACS, (led by Jim Manner and Dr. Jeff Evanseck and student affiliates of Duquesne University), presented nine plaques (five by Pittsburgh ACS, four by Duquesne University Chemistry Department + \$ 100) to nine HS winners for their presentations. The plaques had the following title; "For Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Chemistry and Biochemistry".

Jim Manner presented to the 7-8 grade winners, four plaques plus \$ 50 from Duquesne University Chemistry Department plus ten certificates from the Pittsburgh Section ACS, with the same notation.

Thanks to all volunteers who helped in the judging of this outstanding event for our young 7-12 grade boys and girls and their interest in science.

SAS Liaison Report, John Jackovitz

The minutes of the SAS governing board and activities for Pittcon have been submitted to the secretary for inclusion with the SSP minutes.

Carnegie Library & Museum, Dick Obrycki

There will be a meeting following Pittcon to discuss their needs for this year.

Carnegie Science Center, Rich Danchik

No report.

Ralph Adams Award, Dan Wilson

The 2011 Ralph N. Adams Award in Bioanalytical Chemistry goes to James Jorgensen of the University of North Carolina and will be presented at Pittcon.

III. Executive Council Reports

Secretary, Helen Boylan

Boylan read an acknowledgement from the Gardner family in memory of Michele Dana.

Treasurer, Linda Rukavina

No report.

Chair-Elect, Greg Meisner

No report.

Nominating Committee, Hub MacDonald

In accordance with Article IV Section 2 of the SSP By-Laws, the Nominating Committee met in January and selected candidates for the 2011/2012 Society Offices to be reported at this meeting. Additional nominations may be made by petition of three members in writing to the Secretary. Such petitions must indicate that the nominees are willing to serve, if elected, and must be received by the Secretary by March 21. Society Ballots will be sent out in early April.

The Nominating Committee has selected the following members to be on the April ballot:

Secretary	Stephanie Wetzel Brian Strohmeier
Treasurer	David Vanischak Joseph Grabowski
Chair-Elect	Linda Rukavina Fu-mei Lin

IV. Committee Reports/Announcements

Committee Arrangements, Melissa Visnikar

Parking chits were offered.

Technical Program, Greg Meisner

The next Technical Program will be held on April 20, 2011 and the speaker will be Robert C. Griffin from MIT. His topic is molecular structure determination using polarization NMR techniques. Title TBA.

Technology Forum, Manny Miller

Dr. Charles L. Christen from the University of Pittsburgh spoke on the "Concerns of Natural Gas Extraction from Marcellus Shale." There were 49 in attendance.

Membership, Stephanie Wetzel

Wetzel acknowledged eight new members to the SSP:

Megan Melucci
Edward A. Wovchko
William H. Strosnider
Mike Washington
Weitong Xu
Linda Pregelman
Tamanna Sultana
G.M. Mizanur-Rahman

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 on the availability of jobs in the local job market.

This year's workshops were on Feb 4 at the Bidwell Training Center (tailored for Chemical Technicians) and Feb 5 at the University of Pittsburgh (tailored for Chemical Professionals).

This year, we had 25 attendees at the Job Searching for Chemical Technician's (JSCT) workshop and 37 at the Job Searching for Chemical Professional's (JSCP) workshop. Dr.

Dan Eustace and Dr. Joseph Jolson were the featured speakers. Their presentations were well received and most of the attendees thought this was a very valuable program.

College Equipment Grants, Melissa Visnikar for Tom Conti

SSP College Equipment Grants Committee would like you to know that we have extended the deadline for applications to the College Equipment Grants. The purpose of this equipment grant is to contribute to science programs at colleges and universities with enrollments of no more than 7,500 students. The grant is to be used for the purchase of new instrumentation or to upgrade existing instrumentation, accessories and equipment related to the study of spectroscopy. The maximum amount of the grant is \$6,000. All colleges and universities are eligible whether or not they are public or private institutions. Only institutions located within and 100 miles outside of the SSP active membership geographical boundaries are eligible to apply for this equipment grant. Applications will be accepted until March 31, 2011.

Applications are on the SSP website....they can be returned to Jenna Sabot (sabot@pittcon.org) at Pittcon Office. Questions, contact Tom Conti at conti@pittcon.org.

K-8 Excellence in Science Teaching Award (ESSEA), Larry Irr

Our Society sent out about 2000 letters in September 2010 to schools in the tristate area soliciting nominations for excellence in science teaching in grades K-8. Our committee members also visited schools, emailed contacts at schools and gave applications to parents and teachers.

The deadline for turning these nominations in is March 11, 2011. Our committee will meet the week of April 11 (likely Tuesday the 12th or Wednesday the 13th depending on what is best for the group) at 6 PM at the Pittsburgh Conference Office to make the final decisions on the winners. Dinner will be catered by Jaden.

Our committee will provide a maximum of three awards, each consisting of a plaque and \$ 1000 to each of the winners at the SSP awards ceremony on Wednesday, May 18th at Duquesne University Ball Room.

Mass Spectrometry Discussion Group, Heather Juzwa

Our next MSDG Meeting will be on Thursday, April 14th at the Grand Concourse at Station Square. It is a roundtable discussion entitled Current Issues & Opportunities in MS Based Biomarker Discovery. There will be 4 world-renowned experts including William L. Bigbee from the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, Russell Grant from Lab Corps, Fred Regnier from Purdue University, and Haleem Issaq from the National Cancer Institute. The registration fee is \$15, and \$5 for students and retirees. We hope to see you there!

Continuing Education, Dave Vanischak

The SSP Continuing Education will presenting a symposium, "Forensic Science 101: An Introduction to Forensic Science and Tour of the Allegheny County Crime Laboratory" on Saturday, April 26, 2011 starting at 10:00. The event will take place at the new Allegheny County Forensics Laboratory in the Strip District. The day will consist of a lecture, tour of the crime lab, and conclude with a sit-down luncheon at the Church Brew Works in Lawrenceville. Registration is currently open to SSP members and one guest only, and is limited to 50 people, The registration deadline is April 1, 2011. Flyers with more information are located outside the lecture hall.

Also the SSP Con. Ed. Committee will be sponsoring another symposium on May 7, entitled "Financial Planning in a Global Economy.", presented by staff of Hefren Tilotsen. The event

will be held at Chatham University. We are still finalizing this event so more information will be available soon via email and on the SSP website.

Metals in Biology Symposium, Partha Basu

2010 Symposium on Metals in Biological Systems was held on December 3rd at Power Center, Duquesne University. The speakers included:

- Yi Lu – University Illinois –Urbana Champaign
- Eric Roden – University of Wisconsin
- Aaron Barchowsky – University of Pittsburgh
- Joshua Hayden – Carnegie Mellon University
- Peter Chovanec – Duquesne University

Following the platform presentation, there was a poster session, which was attended well. The registration for the symposium was free, and was done through a web interface. A total 133 participants registered for the event. A total of 66 abstracts were submitted for posters, although 70 posters were presented.

Five undergraduate students were recognized for their outstanding poster presentation:

- Autumn Eckert from the University of Pittsburgh-Greensburg
- Daniel Soisson from the University of Pittsburgh-Greensburg
- Samih Nassif from Duquesne University
- Laura Gable from Duquesne University
- Jessica Posimo from Duquesne University.

We thank the Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh for the support.

VI. Old Business

December 2010 and January 2011 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 Hub MacDonald seconded the motion. There was no opposition. The motion was approved.

January 2011 Treasurer's Reports, Melissa Visnikar

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

VIII. New Business/Announcements

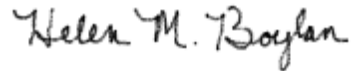
SACP Continuing Education, Jim Manner for Barb Manner

The Continuing Education Committee of the SACP is sponsoring a symposium on April 2, 2011 8:00 - 12:00 at Duquesne University. The symposium topic is Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research and features Dr. Robert W. Mays Co-founder and Senior Director of Regenerative Medicine Athersys, Inc. speaking on the Development of MultiStem, an Adult Stem Cell Product, for Treatment of CNS Injury and Disease, Alicia L Bertone, DVM, PhD, Diplomate American College of Veterinary Surgery Trueman Family Endowed Chair and Professor The Ohio State University speaking on Regenerative Medicine and Cell-based Therapies -Veterinary Medicine, Geoffrey K. White, J.D., LL.M. Patent Attorney McNees Wallace & Nurick speaking on Stem Cells and Patents: What can be Protected and What is Protected, and Lisa S. Parker, PhD Center for Bioethics and Health Law University of Pittsburgh speaking on Regenerative Medicine Research: Issues in Design and Decision Making. Lunch will follow in City View.

Dave Vanischak made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Eric Wilkins seconded the motion. The business meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:23 pm. The technical program followed the business meeting. Greg Meisner introduced Jan Pifer who introduced Professor Catherine Fenselau from the University of Maryland who spoke about "Rapid analysis of bacteria using mass spectrometry-based proteomics."

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

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Helen M. Boylan". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Helen M. Boylan
2010-2011 SSP Secretary