



BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY DIVISION AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

<http://lysine.pharm.utah.edu/acsbio/acsbio.html>

Secretary: J. P. Richard

January, 2005

Message from the Chair Richard Armstrong

Before looking forward to 2005 and beyond I would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing officers of the Division for their service over the last years. In particular, we owe a deep debt of gratitude to Vern Schramm who served the last four years as Chair-Elect then Chair of the Division. Vern has been a very proactive Division Chair and a strong advocate for the Division. He has brought the bylaws up to date, improved the financial position of the Division and is completing an operations manual for the officers to make their responsibilities more clear. Thank you Vern!

Cynthia Burrows did an excellent job organizing the program this last year and has worked on some innovations such as the possibility of a student-organized symposium, which we hope to be able to implement in the near future. The job of Program Chair is quite a lot of work and we are appreciative of the extra effort.

Perhaps the most onerous job in the Division is that of the Secretary. John Richard has done a splendid job in this capacity for the last couple of years. His organizational skills are exceptional.

Peter Tipton continues as Treasurer in 2005 keeping track of the Division's resources. He has done an exceptional job during a time when we have expanded the number of programs that we support and hence his work load.

Vernon Anderson begins his term as Program Chair for 2006. In this regard the Division is entertaining the possibility of co-sponsoring some events at the 100th anniversary meeting of the ASBMB in San Francisco in April 2006. Judy Bond, President of ASBMB, proposed that the ACS/DBC participate on this occasion. I think this is an excellent idea and Vernon and I will be pursuing this opportunity.

The issue of open access to the ACS journals was addressed in this forum about a year ago. As a service to science and for the health of its journals, I believe that it is very important for the ACS to move to a policy providing a more open access to the back-files. I hope that the ACS will be able to find a new balance between the economics of publishing and archiving scientific information (it is very expensive) and the public access to that information. As members of the DBC I hope you will make your opinions on this issue known to the ACS governance

Finally, I would like to welcome all the newly elected officers of the Division. Carol Fierke, Professor of Chemistry at the University of Michigan becomes Chair Elect in 2006 and then Chair in 2008. Most of you know Carol as an exceptional scientist who has been very active in the Division over the years. The function of the Division requires a considerable amount of time from a variety of individuals. I would like to thank all the candidates and members who participated in the election. It is vital to a robust and active division.

Dues Change for the Division of Biological Chemistry

Annual dues for the Division of Biological Chemistry were increased from \$6 to \$10 in 2004. The intent of this increase is to expand Divisional outreach programs including: 1) Travel awards to attend ACS National meetings. 2) Support for the Division's program at ACS National Meetings. 3) Support of symposia at ACS regional meetings as described on page 3 of this Newsletter. 4) Support of Conferences of specific interest to our members, such as Gordon Research Conferences and symposia at the ASBMB annual meeting.

This dues increase brings to the DBC substantial new funding to promote the common interests of our members. Members should take it upon themselves to define these interests by contacting John Richard, the Division's Secretary, with specific requests for support of Scientific Conferences and Symposia, or with novel ideas of outreach programs to our members. Proposals for programs to assist members who are in the developing stages of their scientific careers are encouraged.

Meetings of the Division of Biological Chemistry at National Meetings of the American Chemical Society.

229th National Meeting, March 13 - 17, 2005 - San Diego CA. The Division of Biological Chemistry organizes formal programs only for the fall National Meeting. However, many members of our Division are also active in The Divisions of Carbohydrate Chemistry, Medicinal Chemistry, Computational Chemistry and Organic Chemistry, and they will find much to interest them in the programs presented by these divisions.

230th National Meeting, August 28 - September 1, 2005 - Washington, D. C. Vernon E. Anderson at The Department of Biochemistry, Case Western Reserve University will serve as Program Chair (vea@cwru.edu). The Program will be composed of invited talks and contributed poster presentations. The call for papers appeared in C&E News in January 2005 and at: <http://chemistry.org/meetings>. Instructions for the submission of abstracts are given on page 6 of this Newsletter.

The Division's program will feature the following symposia to highlight the work of our members.

Award Symposia

Lilly Award Symposium honoring Dewey G. McCafferty: *Adventures in Protein Chemistry.*

Pfizer Award Symposium honoring Nicole S. Sampson: *Function, Structure, Dynamics of Membrane-Associated Molecules.*

Repligen Award Symposium honoring David E. Cane: *Frontiers in Biosynthesis: Assigning Biochemical Function in the Age of Genomics and Proteomics*

Other Symposia

"Antibiotics: Resistance and New Approaches" Organized by Dehua Pei.

"Computational Approaches to Study Enzyme Mechanisms" Organized by Nigel Richards.

"Mass Spectrometric Analysis of Protein Interfaces" Organized by Virgil Woods.

"New Roles and Functions of RNA" Organized by Mike Harris.

"Frontiers in Photobiology" Organized by Robert J. Stanley and cosponsored by the Division of Physical Chemistry.

"Charge Transfer Processes: Making Connections" Organized by Robert J. Cave, Matthew B. Zimmt and Alexei A. Stuchebrukhov and cosponsored by the Division of Physical Chemistry.

Poster Presentations. Posters will be presented at several sessions during the week of the ACS meeting. Contributions on topics related to the themes of the organized symposia are encouraged. Instructions for the submission of poster abstracts are given on page 6 of this Newsletter

Travel Awards. The Division has increased the number of travel awards for member graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to attend the ACS National Meeting from 20 to 25. The level of

support is \$600 along with a complimentary registration. Detailed information about these awards is given on page 6 of this Newsletter.

232nd National Meeting, September 10-14, 2006 - San Francisco CA. Karen Allen at The Department of Physiology and Biophysics, Boston University School of Medicine will serve as the Chair of the Program Committee for this meeting (allen@med-xtal.bu.edu).

234th National Meeting, August 19-23, 2007 - Boston MA. Tadhg Begley at The Department of Chemistry, Cornell University will serve as the Chair of the Program Committee for this meeting (tpb2@cornell.edu)

Regional ACS Meetings.

The Division awards grants of up to \$1500 to support the expenses of symposia at ACS Regional meetings. Members interested in organizing a symposium at one of the following meetings in 2005 should provide an outline for the proposed program to:

John P. Richard
Department of Chemistry
University at Buffalo, SUNY
Buffalo, NY 14260

Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting.
[\[http://www.marmacs.org/\]](http://www.marmacs.org/)
May 22 - 25, 2005. New Brunswick, New Jersey

60th Northwest Regional Meeting.
[\[http://www.norm-schb-2005.org/\]](http://www.norm-schb-2005.org/)
June 15-18, 2005. Fairbanks, Alaska.

Northeast Regional Meeting.
July 14 - 17 , Fairfield, CT

40th Midwest Regional Meeting.
Oct 26 - 28, 2005. Joplin, Missouri.

Southeast & Southwest Regional Meeting, Nov 1 - 4, 2005 Memphis, Tennessee.

The Division was pleased to provide support for the following symposia held at ACS Regional Meetings during 2004.

"Protein-Nucleic Acid Interactions" The Joint Rocky Mountain & Northwest Regional ACS

Meeting at Utah State, June 6-9. Organized by Sheila S. David.

"Chemical Principles in Understanding Biology" The 60th Southwest Regional Meeting, September 29 - October 2, 2004, Fort Worth Texas. Organized by Kevin Dalby.

"Metal Binding to Proteins" The 60th Southwest Regional Meeting, September 29 - October 2, 2004, Fort Worth Texas. Organized by Catherine H. Schein.

"Biopolymers, Mimetics, and Beyond" The 33rd Northeast Regional Meeting, October 31 - November 3, Rochester NY. Organized by Richard Cheng.

Other Meetings

The Division has provided support for the following meetings scheduled for 2004 -2005.

Gordon Conferences on Enzymes, Coenzymes and Metabolic Pathways, Meridan New Hampshire.

Gordon Conference on Bioorganic Chemistry, Andover, New Hampshire.

Nineteenth Winter Enzyme Mechanism Conference, Asilomar, California.

24th Midwest Enzyme Chemistry Conference, Chicago, Illinois.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Division of Biological Chemistry Awards for 2006

Nominations are requested for the year 2006 Eli Lilly Award in Biological Chemistry, the Pfizer Award in Enzyme Chemistry, and the Repligen Corporation Award in Chemistry of Biological Processes.

Eli Lilly Award in Biological Chemistry: Nominees shall have accomplished outstanding research in biological chemistry of unusual merit and independence of thought and originality. The nominee shall not have passed the 38th birthday by April 30, 2006, and shall be actively engaged in

the line of research for which the award is made. This prize cannot be made to a person who received another award sponsored by Eli Lilly and Company for the same technical accomplishment.

Recent recipients: Gerald Rubin (1985), James Rothman (1986), Jacqueline Barton (1987), Peter Walter (1988), Michael Cox (1989), George McLendon (1990), Peter Schultz (1991), William DeGrado (1992), Stuart Schreiber (1993), Peter Kim (1994), Jeremy Berg (1995), Gregory Verdine (1996), Alanna Schepartz (1997), John Kuriyan (1998), Chaitan Khosla (1999), Xiaodong Wang (2000), Jennifer Doudna (2001), Kevan Shokat (2002), Andreas Matouschek (2003), Benjamin Cravatt (2004) and Dewey G. McCafferty (2005).

Pfizer Award in Enzyme Chemistry: Nominees shall have accomplished outstanding work in enzyme chemistry where the presence of enzyme action is unequivocally demonstrated. The nominee shall be engaged in noncommercial work and shall not have passed the 40th birthday by April 30, 2006. This prize cannot be made to a person who received another award sponsored by Pfizer, Inc. for the same technical accomplishment.

Recent recipients: Tom Cech (1985), JoAnne Stubbe (1986), Gregory Petsko (1987), John Kozarich (1988), Kenneth Johnson (1989), James Wells (1990), Ronald Vale (1991), Carl Pabo (1992), Michael Gelb (1993), Donald Hilvert (1994), Gerald Joyce (1995), Andrew Karplus (1996), Daniel Herschlag (1997), Ronald Raines (1998), David Christianson (1999), Eric Kool (2000), Ruma Banerjee (2001), Karin Musier-Forsyth (2002), Dorothy Kern (2003), Wilfred van der Donk (2004) and Nicole S. Sampson (2005).

Repligen Corporation Award in Chemistry of Biological Processes: Nominees shall have made outstanding contributions to the understanding of the chemistry of biological processes with particular emphasis on structure, function and mechanism. There are no restrictions on age or membership affiliation for the Repligen Award.

Recipients: Gregorio Weber (1986), Thomas C. Bruice (1987), Robert Abeles (1988), Stephen Benkovic (1989), Harold Scheraga (1990), William Parson (1991), Frank Westheimer (1992), Jeremy Knowles (1993), Judith Klinman (1994), Wallace W. Cleland (1995), William P. Jencks (1996), James A. Spudich (1997), David Eisenberg (1998), Christopher Walsh (1999), Perry Frey (2000), Rowena Matthews (2001), Dale Poulter (2002), John Gerlt (2003), JoAnne Stubbe (2004) and David E. Cane (2005).

Submission of Nominations: A nominator should send the curriculum vitae of the candidate with a list of publications and a letter explaining the special achievements of the candidate. Additional letters of support for the specific candidate are desirable. Information about the nominating process is also posted at: <http://lysine.pharm.utah.edu/acsbio/acsbio.html>

Deadline: June 1, 2005 - All materials should be sent to:

John P. Richard
Department of Chemistry
University at Buffalo, SUNY
Buffalo, NY 14260

Election Results

New Officers for the Division of Biological Chemistry.

Our Division serves many important functions, the most important of which are related to promoting the work of its members. This requires a significant commitment of time and effort from our officers. The Division offers its thanks to each of its members who generously made themselves available for office in the 2004 elections, and congratulations to the following newly elected officers:

Chair-Elect for 2005-2006
Carol A. Fierke

Program Chair for 2007:
Tadhg P. Begley

Executive Committee (2):
Mark D. Distefano
John P. Richard

Councilors (2)
Amy C. Rosenzweig
Dewey G. McCafferty

Alternate Councilors (2)
Jason D. Kahn
Sunyoung Kim

Nominating Committee (3):

Philip A. Cole
Deborah A. Kallick
Peter J. Tonge

Nominations of Officers. The Nominating Committee (below) encourages nominations of candidates for the following offices for 2006.

Philip A. Cole (pcole@jhmi.edu)
Deborah A. Kallick (dakallic@utmb.edu)
Peter Tonge (ptonge@notes.cc.sunysb.edu)

Secretary (3 year term).
Treasurer (3 year term).
Program Committee Member (4 year term)
Nominating Committee Member (3 year term)
Executive Committee (Two for 3 year terms).
Councilors (Two for 3 year terms).

Bylaws. The revisions in the Divisions bylaws were approved by a majority of greater than 90% of our members. The most visible effect of these changes will be the replacement of the Division's Program Chair by a Program Committee of four members. The hope is that this will lead to a decrease in the work load of the Program Chair, and at same time facilitate an increase in the level of the Division's participation in National and Regional meetings. Members are strongly encouraged to contact the Program Committee with proposals for symposia at these meetings and requests for funding of events that serve the common interests of our members.

Program Committee for 2005

Vernon Anderson [Chair] (vea@cwru.edu)
Karen Allen (allen@med-xtal.bu.edu)
Tadhg Begley (tpb2@cornell.edu)
Cindy Burrows (burrows@chem.utah.edu)

Report from the Philadelphia, ACS Meeting, August 22-26, 2004

The Division's Program at the Philadelphia ACS Meeting was organized by Cynthia Burrows from The Department of Chemistry at the University of Utah. The quality of the talks was uniformly superb and a high level of attendance was maintained through the last section on "Molecular Recognition and Signal Transduction" The featured symposia covered the following topics.

"Antibiotic Biosynthesis" Pfizer Award to Wilfred A. van der Donk.

"Protein Function" Lilly Award to Benjamin F Cravatt.

"Enzyme Mechanisms" Repligen Award to JoAnne Stubbe.

"Mechanisms of RNA Interference and Gene Silencing" Organizer: Allen W. Nicholson

"Small-Molecule Nucleic Acid Interactions" Organizer, Peter A. Beal.

"Biochemistry of Cytochrome c Oxidase and Copper Transport" Organizer. Eric L. Hegg.

"Chemistry and Biology of DNA Damage in Cells" Organizer, Peter C. Dedon.

"Genomic Approaches to Enzymology" Organizers, John A. Gerlt and J. W. Kozarich.

"Molecular Recognition and Signal Transduction" Organizer, Linda C. Hsieh-Wilson

In addition to the scheduled talks, 229 posters were presented by students and postdocs. The number of evening sessions was increased from one to two in order to accommodate this record number of posters.

Cindy Burrows deserves our thanks for organizing this outstanding program. The planning for the program for 2005 meeting in Washington is well advanced thanks to the efforts of the Program Chair, Vernon Anderson.

Travel Awards for 2004

The Division promotes the work of our young talent through the award of Travel Grants. The following is a list of the recipients of Travel Grants to attend the 2004 ACS meeting in Philadelphia.

Kristin Burns (Tadhg Begley, Cornell University).
Brian Callahan (Richard Wolfenden, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)
Erin Carlson (Laura Kiessling, University of Wisconsin)
Doug Daniels (John Tainer, Scripps)
Stephanie Gantt (Carol Fierke, University of Michigan)
Barry Gooch (Peter Beal, University of Utah)
Melinda Harrison (Jeffrey Evansek, Duquesne University)

Mandy Hosford (Cynthia Burrows, University of Utah)
Swapan Jain (Nicholas Hud, Georgia Tech University)
Sonali Jog (P. Murthy, Michigan Tech University)
Jonathan Kern (Jeffrey Johnson, University of Wisconsin)
Olga Lukianova (Sheila David, University of Utah)
Jin Kim Montclare (David Tirrell, Caltech)
Samit Shah (Simon Friedman, UMKC)
Hui Tang (Nicole Sampson, SUNY, Stony Brook)
John Tomsho (James Coward, University of Michigan)
Kristina Toth (John Richard, SUNY, Buffalo)
Sarah Tully (Linda Hsieh-Wilson, Caltech)
Emily Weinert (Steve Rokita, University of Maryland)
Yu Ye (Cynthia Burrows, University of Utah)
Dominic Yee (Dalibor Sames, Columbia University)

The Division strongly encourages applications for 2005 travel awards (see below).

230th National Meeting of the American Chemical Society, August 28 - September 1, 2005 - Washington, D. C.

Professor Vernon Anderson (vea@cwru.edu) is the Program Chair. The call for papers will appear in C&E News in January 2005 and on the web at (<http://chemistry.org/meetings>).

Abstracts for invited talks and poster presentations should be submitted online to (<http://oasys.acs.org/>) This records the abstract in the automated OASYS system that is used to organize this meeting. Abstracts for the Washington meeting can be submitted starting in March and ending on May 13, 2005. Author instructions, including procedures for incorporating graphics or equations in the abstract, can be accessed at this same website.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF YOUR ABSTRACT TO THE ACS WEBSITE IS:

MAY 13, 2005

Travel Awards to Attend the ACS 230th National Meeting

The Division will offer 25 travel awards on a competitive basis for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to attend the meeting and present a poster on their research. The selected travel awardees will be reimbursed up to \$600 for expenses and will receive a complimentary registration to the conference. Receipts must be submitted along with a request for reimbursement after the meeting. No more than two awards will be made to one laboratory.

The deadline for submission of an application for a travel award is May 20, 2005.

To apply for a Travel Award

- (1) Fill in the Travel Award Application below.
- (2) Attach a printed copy of your abstract.
- (3) Attach a one page CV.
- (4) Attach a signed letter of recommendation from your faculty advisor.
- (5) Send one complete pdf file of this material as an EMAIL attachment to the Program Chair at:

vea@cwru.edu

Be sure to use a subject line of "ACS Travel Awards" for your electronic application.

Application for a Travel Award for Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Fellows

Name: _____ Advisor: _____

Department _____ Graduate Student: _____ Postdoctoral Fellow: _____

Institution: _____ Street: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Tel: _____ E-mail: _____

Is an Abstract attached? _____ Is a CV attached? _____ Is a recommendation letter attached? _____