



BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY DIVISION AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

<http://www.biochemdivision.org/>

Secretary: J. P. Richard

March 2008

Message from the Chair Carol Fierke

Spring is just around the corner. For the first time the Division of Biological Chemistry has a program at the Spring ACS meeting this year (New Orleans, April 6-10, 2008) and we are looking forward to this event. I would particularly like to thank Tadgh Begley and the organizing committee for the effort that they expended in getting this program set up. In the future we plan to continue our programming at the fall meeting (Philadelphia, August 17-21, 2008) and expand our participation at the spring ACS meeting in future years (San Francisco, March 21-25, 2009).

We are pleased to announce that the inaugural "Gordon Hammes ACS Biochemistry Lecture" will be presented during the 238th ACS National Meeting, August 16-20, 2009 in Washington, DC. This lectureship will honor a scientist who has had a major impact on scientific research at the interface of chemistry and biology particularly in the realm of biochemistry, biological chemistry and molecular biology. The award is also intended to foster closer relations between the ACS Publications Divisions and the ACS Division of Biological Chemistry.

In addition to this new lectureship, the Biological Chemistry Division will host symposia honoring a number of other awardees. The award winners for 2008 (**Repligen Award, H. W. Liu; Pfizer Award, Carsten Krebs; Lilly Award, Paul Hergenrother; and Goodman Award, Michael Marletta**) are an outstanding group of scientists who have organized impressive awards symposia. We are very thankful for all of the sponsors (Biochemistry, Biopolymers, Repligen, Pfizer and Lilly) for their sponsorship of these awards. I encourage you all to nominate candidates for the 2009 awards.

The Division of Biological Chemistry continues outreach efforts by supporting other symposia and travel awards for graduate

students and postdoctoral fellows to attend the spring and fall ACS meetings. In addition, the Biological Chemistry Division is raising funds for "Founder's Travel Awards", to support the participation of students and/or post-docs at meetings of the Winter Enzyme Mechanisms Conference. I urge you all to consider contributing to this fund to honor the three individuals who initiated this conference, Tom Bruice, Bill Jencks, and Myron Bender. This award will promote the development of future scientists in this area.

The Division of Biological Chemistry has received a request from the Center for Scientific Review at NIH for help in identifying volunteer grant reviewers. In this time of limited funding, it is essential to recruit the highest quality reviewers and also reviewers who are knowledgeable in the research areas of our Division. In response to this request, the Division will be preparing a pre-screened list of senior, experienced members of our society who are willing to volunteer as NIH reviewers.

Finally, I would like to thank the outgoing officers of the Division (Karen Allen, Phillip Cole, Amy Rosenzweig, Dewey McCafferty, Jason Kahn, Sunyoung Kim and Mark Distefano) and the continuing officers and welcome the new officers (Martin Bollinger, Program Chair; Helen Blackwell, Nominating Committee; Neil Kelleher and Karin Musier-Fox, Executive Committee; Kevin Dalby and Felicia Etkorn, Councilors). Please nominate candidates for the 2009 election. Our Division depends on the enormous efforts of these volunteers.

New Benefit for Members

Members of the Division of Biological Chemistry are now eligible to receive a 20% discount on any Wiley book, across all content areas. This discount is available to members who order online at wiley.com, or over the phone at 1-800-callwil by using the special code BCHEM when placing the order.

Founders Travel Awards

The Winter Enzyme Mechanisms Conference was founded in 1969 by Tom Bruice, Bill Jencks, and Myron Bender, to foster collegial interactions within the community of chemists and biochemists interested in understanding the chemical basis for enzymatic catalysis and the regulation of enzyme action. The passing of William P. Jencks on January 5 of 2007 coincided with the 20th meeting of the Winter Enzyme Mechanisms Conference in St. Petersburg, Florida. Bill's loss was keenly felt by many of the senior participants at this conference, who understood that he was present at the creation of their gathered community of enzymologists. There was interest at this meeting in recognizing Bill's many contributions to Mechanistic Enzymology in a manner that would help to ensure the vibrancy of this community that he had helped to create.

An important outcome of this interest is the "Founder's Travel Awards", to support the participation of students and/or post-docs at meetings of the Winter Enzyme Mechanisms Conference. The endowment for this award will be administered by the ACS Biological Chemistry Division, who will manage the investment of the contributed funds and establish the process for the competitive selection of the awardees.

Members who would like to contribute to the endowment to support the "Founder's Travel Awards" should make out your contributions to the "ACS Biological Chemistry Division, Founder's Travel Award" and send this contribution to:

Professor Eugene G. Mueller
Treasurer, ACS Biological Chemistry Division
Department of Chemistry
University of Louisville
Louisville, KY 40292

New Award in the Division of Biological Chemistry

The Division of Biological Chemistry is pleased to announce that the inaugural "Gordon Hammes ACS Biochemistry Lectureship" will be presented during the 238th ACS National Meeting, August 16-20, 2009 in Washington, DC.

This lectureship is administered jointly by the Editor-in-Chief of Biochemistry and the Division of Biological Chemistry of the American Chemical Society. The objective of the lectureship is to honor, at an annual ACS meeting, the contributions of an individual who has had a major impact on scientific research at the interface of chemistry and biology particularly in the realm of biochemistry, biological chemistry and molecular biology. The award is also intended to foster closer relations between the ACS Publications Divisions and the ACS Division of Biological Chemistry.

Eligibility: Candidates should meet the above criteria and have published at least one paper in Biochemistry.

Nominations: A nominator should send the curriculum vitae of the candidate, a list of publications, a letter explaining the special achievements of the candidate, and arrange for a minimum of two additional letters of support. All nomination material should be sent to:

John P. Richard
Department of Chemistry
University at Buffalo, SUNY
Buffalo, NY 14260
biochdiv@chem.buffalo.edu

Use on subject line for EMAIL message: DBC Awards

or the Editor-in-Chief of Biochemistry:

Richard N. Armstrong, Editor
Department of Biochemistry
Vanderbilt University School of Medicine
832 RRB
Nashville, TN 37232-0146
journalbiochem@vanderbilt.edu

Deadline - June 1, 2008

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

235th National Meeting, April 6-10, New Orleans Louisiana.

The Division of Biological Chemistry is pleased to announce its program for the 235th National Meeting of the American Chemical Society, New Orleans, LA, April 6 - 10, 2008. This program will consist of 45 talks and over 200 posters. The Division's officers are excited about the high level of participation in this program.

The Division plans to organize programs for the spring 2009 (Salt Lake City) and 2010 (San Francisco) ACS meetings. The tireless efforts of Tadhg Begley in assembling the exciting and vibrant program for the 2008 meeting have helped to ensure the presence of the Division at the 2010 and 2011 spring meetings and beyond.

The full program for the Divisions Spring meeting is available on our Website at <http://www.biochemdivision.org/>.

236th National Meeting, August 17-21, 2008 - Philadelphia PA. James Stivers, Department of Pharmacology and Molecular Sciences, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine will serve as the Chair of the Program Committee for this meeting (jstivers@jhmi.edu).

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

Award Symposia

Repligen Award honoring H. W. Liu: *Learning Nature's Strategy for Catalysis*

Pfizer Award honoring Carsten Krebs: *Novel Approaches in Metalloenzymology*

Lilly Award honoring Paul Hergenrother: *Small Molecules as Probes for Biology and Medicine*

Murray Goodman Award: *Honoree to be announced in January*

Other Symposia

Symposium to Honor Bill Jencks: John Richard, Organizer,

Symposium on Chromatin Remodeling: Phil Cole, Organizer.

Chemistry and Biology of Tuberculosis: John Blanchard, Organizer.

RNA Folding and Function: Dan Herschlag, Organizer.

Unnatural Amino Acids: Changing Nature's Catalytic Repertoire: Tom Muir, Organizer.

Nucleic Acid Chemical Biology: Floyd Romesberg, Organizer.

Poster Presentations. Posters will be presented at several sessions during the week of the ACS meeting. The division encourages submission of abstracts for posters. Contributions on topics related to the themes of the organized symposia are particularly encouraged.

Submission of Abstracts. The instructions for submissions of abstracts for poster and oral presentations are given towards the end of this Newsletter.

Travel Awards. The Division offers travel awards for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to attend the 236th ACS National Meeting from August 17-21, 2008. The level of support is \$500 along with a complimentary registration. Detailed information about these awards is given on page xx of this Newsletter.

FUTURE NATIONAL MEETINGS

237th ACS National Meeting, March 22-26, 2009, Salt Lake City, UT. The Division will continue the highly successful inaugural spring program for the 235th New Orleans ACS National Meeting. James Stivers, Department of Pharmacology and Molecular Sciences, Johns Hopkins Medical School will serve as the Chair of the Program Committee for meeting at Salt Lake City, Utah (jstivers@jhmi.edu)

238th National Meeting, August 16-20, 2009 - Washington DC. Suzanne Walker, Department of Microbiology and Molecular

Genetics, Harvard University will serve as the Chair of the Program Committee for this meeting (suzanne_walker@hms.harvard.edu).

239th ACS National Meeting, March 21-25, 2010, San Francisco, CA. Suzanne Walker, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, Harvard University will serve as the Chair of the Program Committee for this meeting (suzanne_walker@hms.harvard.edu).

240th ACS National Meeting, August 22-26, 2010, Boston, MA. J. Martin Bollinger, Jr, Department of Biochemistry, Pennsylvania State University will serve as the Chair of the Program Committee for this meeting (jmb21@psu.edu).

Regional ACS Meetings.

Regional meetings of the American Chemical Society provide young chemists, particularly graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, the opportunity to make professional contacts and hone their presentation skills in a relatively low-key atmosphere. The Division of Biological Chemistry encourages its members to participate in the following regional meetings.

40th Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting (MARM)
<http://marmacs.org/2008/index.html>
May 17 - 21, 2008. Queens NY

40th Central Regional Meeting (CERM)
<http://www.cermacs2008.org/site/>
June 10-14, 2008, Columbus, OH

Joint 63rd Northwest/21st Rocky Mountain Regional Meeting (NORM/RMRM)
<http://www.chem.byu.edu/acshttp://www.uwyo.edu/rmr2007acs-aiche/>
June 15-18, 2008, Park City, UT

37th Northeast Regional Meeting (NERM)
<http://www.nerm2008.org/>
June 29 - July 2, 2008, Burlington, VT

43rd Western Regional Meeting (WRM)
<http://membership.acs.org/w/WRM2008/>
September 24-27, 2008 Las Vegas, NV

64th Southwestern Regional Meeting (SWRM)
<http://www.swrm.org/2008/>
October 1-4, Little Rock, AR

61st Southeast Regional Meeting (SERMACS)
<http://www.sermacs2008.org/>
November 12-15, Nashville, TN

43rd Midwest Regional Meeting (MWRM)
<http://www.unk.edu/acad/chemistry/mwrm2008/index.php?id=23638>
October 8-11, Kearney, NE

Support for Meetings

The Division of Biological Chemistry provides grants to its members of up to \$1500 to support the expenses of a one-day symposium at any ACS Regional meeting and of up to \$2000 to support larger conferences. Members interested in organizing a symposium or conference in 2008/2009 should provide an outline for the proposed program to:

Suzanne Walker
Dept. of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics
Harvard Medical School
200 Longwood Ave.
Boston, MA 02115
suzanne_walker@hms.harvard.edu

These proposals will be reviewed twice a year at the Division's Officer meetings, which are generally held during the Spring and Fall ACS meetings.

The division provided support for the following symposia and meetings held in 2007.

2007 Enzymes Mechanisms Conference. January 3 - 6, 2007, St. Petes, Florida.

DBC Program at the 2007 Middle Atlantic Regional Conference. March 16-18, 2007, Collegeville, Pennsylvania.

Nakanishi Prize Symposium. 233rd ACS National Meeting, March 24, 2007, Chicago, Illinois

Biological NMR. Two day symposium at the Central Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society, May 20 - 23, 2007, Akron, Ohio.

2007 Gordon Research Conference on Enzymes, Coenzymes and Metabolic Pathways. July 8 - 13, University of New England, Maine.

2007 Gordon Research Conference on Vitamin B₁₂ and Corphins. Organizer, Wilfred van der Donk. July 1 - 6, University of New England, Maine.

Strategies in Enzymatic Oxidation Catalysis. Two day symposium at the 234th ACS National Meeting, August 19 - 23, 2007, Boston Massachusetts.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Division of Biological Chemistry Awards for 2008

Nominations are requested for the year 2009 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, 2009, 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: 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), Dewey G. McCafferty (2005), Linda Hsieh-Wilson (2006), Anna K. Mapp (2007), Paul J. Hergenrother (2008).

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, 2009. This prize cannot be made to a person who received another award sponsored by Pfizer, Inc. for the same technical accomplishment.

Recent recipients: 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), Nicole S. Sampson (2005), James Berger (2006), Neil Kelleher (2007) and Carsten Krebs (2008).

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), David E. Cane (2005), Vern Schramm (2006), Michael Marletta (2007), Hung-Wen (Ben) Liu (2008).

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://biochemdivision.org/>

The Deadline for Receipt of Nomination Materials is June 1, 2008 - All materials should be sent to:

John P. Richard
Department of Chemistry
University at Buffalo, SUNY
Buffalo, NY 14260
jrichard@chem.buffalo.edu

Nominations of Officers.

The Nominating Committee (below) encourages nominations of candidates for the offices shown below for 2009. Please send your suggestions to any member of the nominating committee by May 1, 2007.

Eric D. Brown (ebrown@mcmaster.ca)
Anna Mapp (amapp@umich.edu)
Helen Blackwell (blackwell@chem.wisc.edu)

Chair Elect (2 year term, followed by 2 year term at Chair).

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)

Program Committee. The Program Committee Chair, James Stivers, in consultation with the Program Committee (below) prepares the Divisional program for ACS National meetings. The committee requests suggestions for symposia for National and Regional ACS meetings.

James T. Stivers (Chair) (jstivers@jhmi.edu)
Suzanne Walker
(suzanne_walker@hms.harvard.edu)
J. Martin Bollinger (jmb21@psu.edu)
Tadhg Begley (tpb2@cornell.edu)

Travel Awards for 2007

The Division of Biological Chemistry 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 2006

ACS meeting in Washington along with the names of their affiliations and advisors.

Dinuka Abeydeera, Department of Chemistry, Wayne State University (Christine S. Chow)

Erik A. Rodriguez, Department of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Caltech (Dennis A. Dougherty).

Jonathan Swoboda, Department of Microbiology, Harvard Medical School (Suzanne Walker).

Shana Topp, Department of Chemistry, Emory University (Justin P. Gallivan).

Luisa S. Gronenberg, Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Harvard University (Daniel E. Kahne).

Danielle Guarracino, Department of Chemistry, Yale University (Alanna Schepartz).

Steven W. Cotten, Division of Medicinal Chemistry and Natural Products, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Harold Kohn).

Wei Jiang, Department of Biochemistry Penn State University (J. Martin Bollinger).

Jeremiah Hanes, Department of Chemistry, Cornell University (Tadhg Begley).

James L. Hougland, (Department of Chemistry, University of Michigan) Carol A. Fierke.

236th ACS National Meeting, August 17-21, 2008 - Philadelphia, PA

James Stivers (jstivers@jhmi.edu) is the Program Chair. The call for papers will appear on the January 28 issue of C&E News and is posted on the web at (<http://www.acs.org/>). Abstracts for invited talks and poster presentations should be submitted online (<http://oasys.acs.org/>). This records the abstract in the automated OASYS system that is used to organize this meeting. Abstracts for the Boston meeting can be submitted starting on January 21 and ending on **March 17, 2008**, at which time the website will be closed to submissions. Instructions for authors, including procedures for

incorporating graphics or equations in the abstract, can be accessed at this website.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF YOUR ABSTRACT TO THE ACS WEBSITE IS **March 17, 2008!**

Travel Awards to Attend the ACS 230th National Meeting

The Division will offer 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 \$500 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 **April 19, 2008.**

To apply for a Travel Award

- (1) Fill in the Travel Award Application on the next page
- (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 *single* EMAIL attachment to the Program Chair at:

[\(jstivers@jhmi.edu\)](mailto:jstivers@jhmi.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 (deadline April 19, 2008).

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? _____