



The Bulletin
of the
Virginia Section
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER MEETING NOTICE

● **AWARDS MEETING** ●

Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond, Virginia

Friday, September 14, 2007

RECEPTION: **5:00 - 6:45 p.m.**
Lobby/Atrium
Temple Building
901 West Main Street

AWARDS PROGRAM: **7:00 p.m.**
Room 1160
Temple Building

MENU: Light Appetizers (5:00-5:30); Shrimp, Meatballs, Roast Beef, Rolls, Cheese, Fruit, Brownies, Lemon Bars (5:30 - 6:45); Soft Drinks, Beer, and Wine

PRICE: Members/Guests - \$12.00; Students, High School Teachers/Spouses, Retired ACS Members/Spouses, Retired Teachers/Spouses - \$6.00

RESERVATIONS: Please make reservations by NOON on **Wednesday, September 12** by calling Mrs. Diane Ruff at (804) 828-1298

HOST: Dr. Sally Hunnicutt, (804) 827-0531, sshunnic @ vcu.edu

PROGRAM: **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD: Dr. Jeffrey I. Seeman**
 “Anecdotes and Learning in a Science Career”

OUTSTANDING INNOVATION AWARD: Dr. Kai O. Donsbach

SEPTEMBER 2007

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DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

DR. JEFFREY I. SEEMAN

Jeffrey I. Seeman received his B.S. with high honors in 1967 from the Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey, and his Ph.D. in organic chemistry in 1971 from the University of California, Berkeley. Following a two-year staff fellowship at the Laboratory of Chemical Physics of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, he joined the Philip Morris Research Center in Richmond, Virginia. In 1983-84, he enjoyed a sabbatical year at the Dyson Perrins Laboratory in Oxford, England, and claims to have visited more than 90 percent of the castles in England, Wales, and Scotland. Seeman's 90 published papers include research and patents in the areas of photochemistry, nicotine and tobacco alkaloid chemistry and synthesis, conformational analysis, pyrolysis chemistry, organotransition metal chemistry, the use of cyclodextrins for chiral recognition, and structure-activity relationships in olfaction. He was a plenary lecturer at the Eighth IUPAC Conference on Physical Organic Chemistry held in Tokyo in 1986 and has been an invited lecturer at numerous scientific meetings and universities. He is the Editor of the prestigious series of 20 autobiographies of eminent chemists titled Profiles, Pathways and Dreams, published by the American Chemical Society and Oxford University Press. Currently, Seeman serves on the Petroleum Research Fund Advisory Board. He continues to count Nero Wolfe and Archie Goodwin among his best friends. Dr. Seeman possesses three Jefferson cups, presented to him by the Virginia Section for his presentations in 1980, 1991, and 1996. His most recent presentation to the Section was a talk on "The World of Chemistry—Diverse in Concepts and People, Yet Closely Connected."



"Anecdotes and Learning in a Science Career"

A renowned chemist once said to me, "I wish I had never heard of you." Another European scientist in his mid-80's once grabbed my bulging suitcase and lumbered across the street to a waiting streetcar – I thought I'd be known forever as the man who killed Prelog. I have laughed with and been stunned by the stars of our profession. Along the way, I've never worked a day in my life! Busy, yes; labor, never. My life as a research scientist has been a story of growth and transition with many opportunities and blessings. In this presentation, I shall share some of the pathways I've taken and the dreams envisioned – most of which evolved in ways I could never have anticipated. Anecdotes and photographs of my teachers, my colleagues, and my friends will be used in abundance. I promise you will leave the room smiling and possibly even enlightened.

OUTSTANDING INNOVATION AWARD

DR. KAI O. DONSBACH

Kai Donsbach was born in the picturesque Bad Kreuznach in the Southern Rhineland in Germany in 1969 as a German national. After visiting school and serving community service as a paramedic in his home city, he moved to Mainz to study Chemistry in 1990. He finished his Diploma in 1996 after receiving a scholarship from the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) to study at UCI (University of California, Irvine) where he worked in the groups of Prof. Henschen-Edman and Prof. Biessmann. He finished his Ph.D. thesis in the year 2000 in the group of Prof. Kunz back in Mainz with the synthesis of a supposedly immunological active complex glycopeptide structure. He moved to Boehringer Ingelheim, not far from Mainz, to lead a laboratory in charge of the chemical development of new



chemical entities and to supply experimental API's for early and late clinical trials, e.g. the innovative experimental hepatitis C treatment BILN 2061. There he worked as part of a team put in charge of the first scale-up of a metathesis reaction with a soluble catalyst to production scale. In 2003, he was transferred to Richmond, Virginia to startup a new synthetic organic development lab with the local Boehringer Ingelheim entity, BI Chemicals, Inc. In 2006, he was transferred to the manufacturing department at BI Chemicals, Inc. in Petersburg where he now is a director of a production unit. Kai Donsbach is married and proud father of three children.

Kai has developed a new synthesis of BILR 355, which is a new experimental compound for the treatment of HIV. The process avoids lengthy and costly transformations on its complex intermediates. One intermediate step is conducted by an innovative phase-transfer-catalyzed approach at very mild temperatures to avoid destruction of the sensitive molecule, an unusual approach for this kind of ring-closing reactions. This synthesis has been adopted by Boehringer Ingelheim and BILR 355 is now in clinical trials, in hopes of becoming an alternative treatment to currently resistant patients.

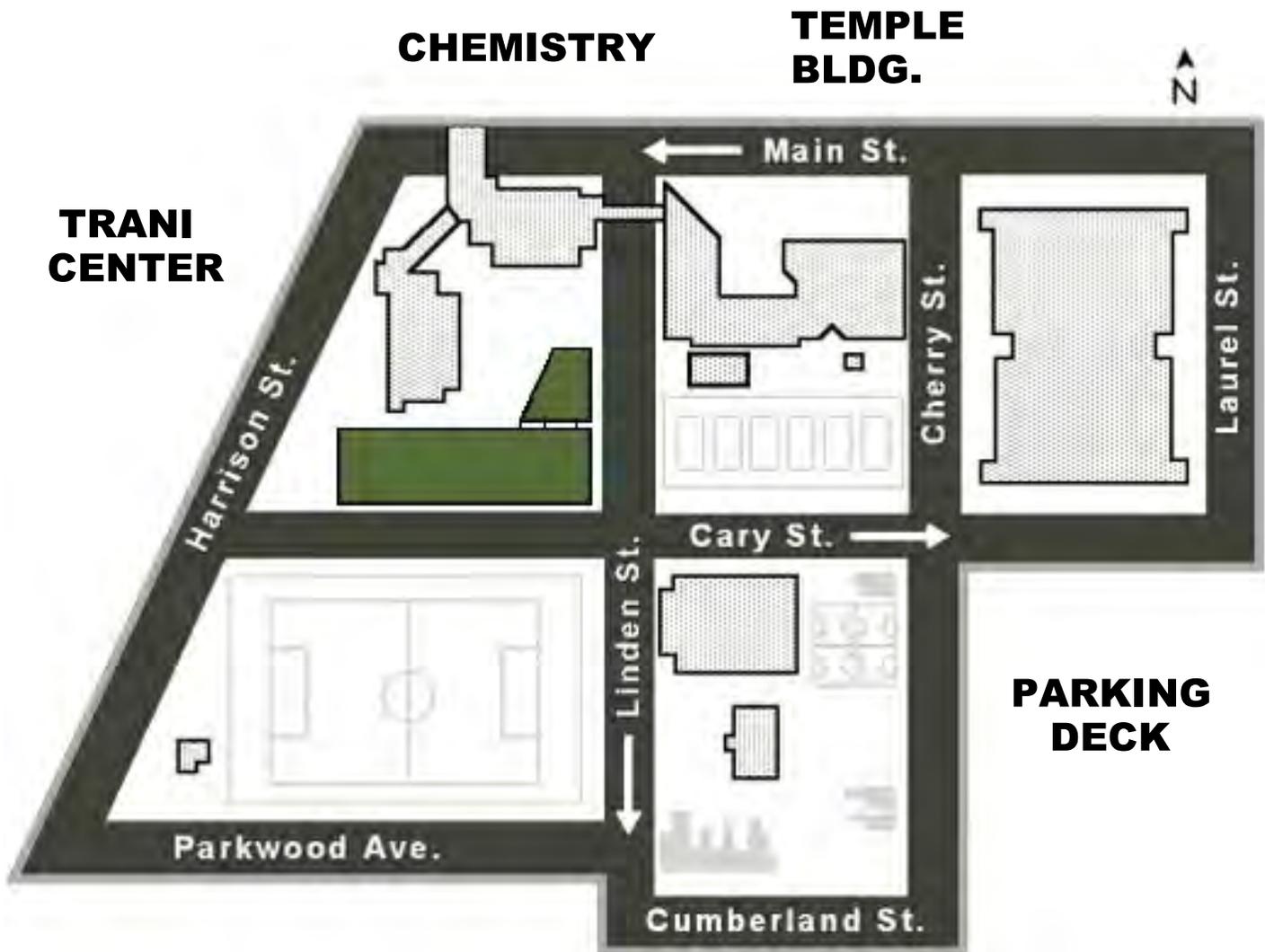
THE OUTSTANDING INNOVATION AWARD

The Virginia Section's Outstanding Innovation Award is given to an individual or group whose invention has resulted in a commercial product or a new or improved process for making a commercial product. Previous winners of this award include Dr. Arnold Francis of the DuPont Company in 1997; Dr. Donald Abraham and Dr. Glen Kellogg of eduSoft, LC in 2001; the CAPIC Synthesis Team of Boehringer Ingelheim Chemicals (Dr. B. Frank Gupton, Mr. Kenneth D. Stanley, Ms. Kristin Kelly Long, Dr. Saeed Ahmad) in 2002; and Dr. John B. Fenn of Virginia Commonwealth University in 2004.

DIRECTIONS

The Reception will be held in the lobby of the Temple Building (formerly the General Purpose Academic Building) at Virginia Commonwealth University. The Temple Building is at 901 West Main Street in Richmond, one block west of Richmond's Landmark Theater (formerly the Mosque). This is just south of the Chemistry Department which is housed in Oliver Hall, 1001 W. Main Street. Note that Main Street is one-way west and Cary Street is one-way east, and that you cannot turn left from Main Street on to Linden. There is parking on the streets around the Temple Building and in the Main Street Parking Deck, 801 W. Main Street (enter from Cherry or Laurel Streets). The Awards Program and Dr. Seeman's talk will be held in Room 1160 on the first floor of the Temple Building.

MAP



***** VIRGINIA SECTION NEWS *****

FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE SECTION

DATE: October 26, 2007
 LOCATION: Randolph-Macon College
 Ashland, Va.
 HOST: Dr. John Thoburn
 PHONE: (804) 752-3790
 SPEAKER: Dr. Stanley Manahan
 TOPIC: "Industrial Ecology, Green Chemistry,
 and the Environmental Chemistry of
 Hazardous Wastes"

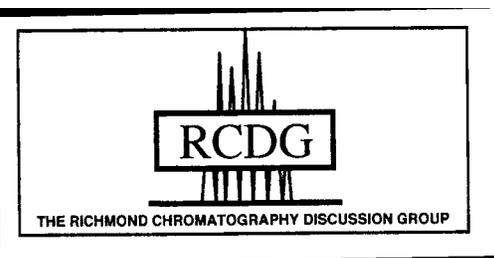
DATE: November 19, 2007
 LOCATION: University of Mary Washington
 Fredericksburg, Va.
 HOST: Dr. Roy Gratz
 PHONE: (540) 654-1412
 SPEAKER: Dr. Jack Breazeale
 TOPIC: "Lab Inspections: You Might
 Be Surprised By What You
 Find!"

DATE: December 7, 2007
 LOCATION: John Tyler Community College
 Chester, Va.
 HOST: Dr. Kristine Smetana,
 PHONE: (804) 706-5143
Presentation of Teaching Awards

RCDG

The purpose of the Richmond Chromatography Discussion Group is to promote the interests of the chromatographic and other separation sciences by expanding the awareness and capabilities of individuals from the scientific community. To meet this goal the group publishes a newsletter and sponsors lectures at various locations in the Richmond area. Check out their website: www.rcdg.org. The next meeting of the RCDG:

September 17, 2007, 5:30 p.m., Philip Morris USA, Research Center - Dr. Eike Reich, CAMAG, "Recent Advances in High-Performance Thin-Layer Chromatography (HPTLC) for the Analysis of Botanical Dietary Supplements"



NATIONAL POSTER CONTEST WINNERS

As reported in the Summer issue of the Bulletin, two students from the Virginia Section have won awards in national ACS contests. Parker King, a second-grade student at Bettie Weaver Elementary School in Chesterfield County, took the first-place prize in the K—2nd grade category of the National Chemistry Week Poster Contest. Caitlin Kelly, a third-grade student from Mechanicsville, won a second place award in the 3rd—4th grade category of the Earth Day Illustrated Haiké Contest. Caitlin is home-schooled. The winning posters can be viewed on the Virginia Section website: <http://membership.acs.org/V/VA/>. Click on the Summer Bulletin.

THE CHAIR'S CORNER

Our 2006 Annual Report was submitted and has been reviewed by Dr. Will Lynch, Chair of the ACS Local Section Activities Committee. Feedback was provided by Dr. Lynch, noting strengths and opportunities for improvement and comments were offered in support of the Virginia Section. I am sharing Dr. Lynch's comments here:



New Activities: The section partnered with two other local sections this year (Va Blue Ridge and Hampton Roads) to host joint meetings. This is a great way to enhance the service of the section to the membership, it improves networking opportunities with chemists of other sections and also helps to share the workload on our taxed volunteers. It sounds like both meetings were successful, keep up the great work. This activity can also be extended to working with other technical societies to form alliances.

Section Administration: The section has a strong administration, with solid meeting organization, good committee organization to support the work of the executive committee. There appears to be many opportunities for members to access leadership positions within the section if it fits the individual members needs. The communication with members is very strong, the "Bulletin" is comprehensive and valuable and the web site is very well organized with up to date/quality content. The executive committee and those in leadership should be commended for a great job. The award structure is strong, and includes recognition of middle and high school teachers. It is critical to recognize these folks who share chemistry and science with our young folks, great job. Further, the section appears to be committed to strong activities to support the industrial chemists in the section. This is important to assist making our Society strong and meets our Mission.

Community Building: Networking and community are important themes that LSAC is focusing on for local sections as we move forward. Your section did a great job reaching out to two other LSs for meeting this year as well as having a strong industrial focus. It is great to see industrial involvement in terms of meetings, financial support and volunteers!! The activities of the section are diverse which allows for the members to jump on to the LS when it meets their needs. This strong planning by the section is clearly a strength.

Mentoring and Leadership: As the Society looks toward making students members of the Society, the section might look to increase their interaction with this group. The support you are giving now is excellent, by getting them to your meetings and providing support. Also, running an Undergraduate Research event is great way to give these young chemists a chance to start their professional development. You might include going past inviting them to a meeting to involving them in planning events. Some Sections give financial support by getting them involved further in driving the program for the section, by giving them the opportunity to run and host meetings for the section as well. Also, consider a liaison with the students to provide insight into how the section might meet their needs better.

Professional Development: In these times of decreasing job security, it is critical for our members to have the tools available to advance professionally both internally and externally to their present position. Maybe enhancing employment information a bit, perhaps tapping into the NE section's blog (<http://blog.nesacs.org/>) is an easy way to accomplish this on a local level. Also, career programming at the local level is very attractive to our younger chemists, interviewing, resume building, interview skills, etc. This can be a great mentoring activity and PD opportunity for you chemists, you might look to the Innovative Project Grants Program on the local section website for financial support.

Continuing Education: The section does a great job with its meeting structure.. One idea that many sections have found success with is offering small (half day) technical symposia, bring together a few presentations on a subject to delve deeper into a specific area. Might be an idea that has some merit to add to your bouquet of activities. Also, look toward other Societies and Divisions to help your programming grow in the future, garnering these resources from other entities may enhance the programming and lower the burden on your volunteers.

Public Outreach: This is certainly a strength of the section. Great activities from NCW to outreach to Chem. Olympiad. This meets a critical need of our Society, keep up the great effort. The Chem Ed committee is to be congratulated for the \$500 grants to support K-12 schools science programs as well as hosting the Council on Teaching Chemistry meeting in VA.

Advocacy: The activities here are solid, members are informed of issues through the section's communications and are active in communicating with government officials. Also, it is great to see you hosted a government official at a local section meeting (all politics is local), this is a good way to share our concerns about science policy with these important folks and improve our networking to help policy makers make critical decisions.

Additional observations and/or suggestions that could help re-focus the efforts of the Local Section: None, it was a strong year for Virginia.

I hope you find these comments informative and let me know if you have questions.

Since our last meeting, I mailed welcome letters to 49 new members. I invite all members to participate in our meetings and activities this fall. A schedule of events is included in The Bulletin, our Section publication, and on our website at <http://membership.acs.org/V/VA/>. My contact information is found in both resources, and as always, I look forward to seeing and hearing from you.

...Will H. Lewis, Jr., Ph.D., Virginia Section Chair

QUESTIONS FROM THE PAST

This question was asked in the Summer Bulletin: In November, 1969, the Virginia Section hosted a Southeastern Regional Meeting, held in Richmond. There were ten symposia, including one on early reports from studies on the moon rocks, and about 300 general papers. The General Chairman for the meeting worked for Philip Morris while the Program Chairman was employed by the American Tobacco Company. **Who were these two gentlemen?** Dr. Helmut Wakeham of Philip Morris was the General Chairman; Dr. Preston Leake was the Program Chairman. Dr. Leake has shared a reservation form from the 1969 meeting. The registration fee was \$10.00; \$2.00 for secondary school teachers; \$1.00 for students. A ticket to the dinner theater cost \$7.50 and one to the Southern Chemist Award Luncheon could be had for \$5.50. The theme of the 1969 meeting was "Science in the New South."

A new question from the past: On June 9, 1961, the Virginia Section presented its Distinguished Service Award to a Professor of Chemistry from the University of Virginia. The recipient was born in Vienna, Austria, in 1905 and received a Ph.D. degree from the University of Vienna in 1928. He worked for the Hoffman-LaRoche Company before joining the faculty at UVA. His research in medicinal chemistry focused on the chemistry of opium alkaloids and the synthesis of morphine substitutes. **Who was the recipient of the 1961 Distinguished Service Award “for outstanding contributions in the advancement of the chemical profession.”**

VIRGINIA SECTION WEBSITE

Information on Virginia Section meetings, copies of the *Bulletin*, and much more can be found on the Virginia Section Website. It can be accessed via <http://membership.acs.org/VVA/>. Dr. Ann Sullivan is the Webmaster. She can be reached at [asullivan @ reynolds.edu](mailto:asullivan@reynolds.edu).

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL MEETING

SERMACS 2007, sponsored by the Western Carolinas Section, will be held in Greenville, South Carolina, October 24-27. Online abstract submission and meeting registration are now open at the meeting website: <http://www.sermacs2007.org/>. The meeting will feature an outstanding technical program, as well as a variety of educational, cultural and recreational events. There are special programs for all aspects of the ACS membership, including industrial and government scientists, educators, and students. Please see the website for complete details.

2007 CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD RESULTS

The 2007 Local Chemistry Olympiad was very successful. Thirty-five schools asked to participate with over 1000 students. Almost half of the participating schools were new to the Virginia Section chemistry Olympiad competition. Two levels of examinations, First-Year and Second-Year, were administered. Individual and team awards were presented in various categories. Some of the results are given below; more information and results can be found on the Virginia Section website: <http://membership.acs.org/VVA/>.

Fourteen students with several alternates, for a total of 12 slots, were invited to take the National Olympiad exam on April 28th at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College in Richmond (no more than two students can be nominated from each school and each student must be a U.S. Citizen to be eligible for the IChO Study Camp). Eleven of the nominated students participated in the National Exam. The nominees were

Samouil Farhi* and Greg Echelberger* from Albemarle High School

Jan Michael Curesma* and Douglas Heatter* from Brooke Point High School

Nicole Wise* from Charlottesville High School

Robert McClure from Forrest Park High School

Creigh Richert* from Freedom High School

Evan Baugh* from Harrisonburg High School
 Yu-sung Huang, Ilya Dubovoy, David Fisher* and Michael Giuffrida* from the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School
 Golda Harris from Monticello High School
 Jena McDaniel* and Rashaan Keeton* from Powhatan High School
 Patrick Kane and Rajeev Samtani from St. Stephen's & St. Agnes' School
 *took National Examination



**Some of the Olympiad finalists with exam proctors
 Dr. Will Lewis (far left) and Dr. Dorothy Eseonu (far right)**

Although none of the students qualified for the Study Camp, Evan Baugh received Honors and Samouil Fahri received High Honors on the National Examination.

Local Examination Student Scores

At each school, the student with the highest score received a National Olympiad or Element pin. The following students were the highest scorers from each participating school. Teachers from each school also received a pin.

School	First Year Exam	Second Year Exam
Albemarle High School	Hong Zhang	Samouil Farhi
Banner Christian School	Susan Rhodes	Lori Piasecki
Brooke Point High School	Trent Kern	Jan Michael Cauresma
Charlottesville High School	Samuel Bailey	Nicole Wise
Chesapeake Bay Governor's School – Warsaw	Joseph Wallace	
Cosby High School	Kevin Crowley	
	David Casalaspi	
Colonial Forge High School		Donald Drummond
Colonial Heights High School		Michael Polo
		Rishi Luthar
Deep Run High School	Hyung Kim	
Douglas Freeman High School		James Irby
		David Poehler
Eastern Mennonite School	James Park	

Junsung Choi

School	First Year Exam	Second Year Exam
Forrest Park High School		Robert McClure
Freedom High School	Di Jin	Creigh Richert
Harrisonburg High School		Evan Baugh
Highland Springs High School	William Hodges	Laurence Johnson
Maggie Walker Governor's School	Christopher Wheeler	
	Hannah Cockrell	Yu-sung Huang
	Ziyi Gao	
Matoaca High School	Charles Stocks	Travis Collins
The Miller School	Brian Min	
Mills E. Godwin High School	Patrick Chu	Rohit Banerjee
Monticello High School		Golda Harris
Mountain View High School	Ben Boudaoud	
New Horizons Governor's School		Luis Goity
Notre Dame Academy	Chris Passarelco	
	Bongju Lee	
Patrick Henry High School		Spencer Grinnell
Potomac Falls High School		Katherine Dacanay
		Sandhya Kumar
		Brennan Thralls
		Jena McDaniel
Powhatan High School		
Prince George High School	Jeffrey Perryman	
Richmond Community High School	Jonathan Mark	
Spotswood High School	Joseph Yessen	
St. Catherine's School		Daniel Fletcher
St. Christopher's School	Brown Farinholt	
	Daniel Farmer	
	Duncan Lyle	
St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School	Gundars Buka	Patrick Kane
Stafford High School	Joshua Covington	Emily Mikkelson
Stonewall Jackson High School		Ian Johnson
The Steward School	Caleb Brown	
	Kevin Buckler	
The Southside Governor's School	Travis Downes	

Local Examination Student Awards

The students with the three highest scores from all participating schools, separated by category and by test, received a \$25 gift certificate from Barnes and Noble for first place, a \$15 gift certificate for second place and a \$10 gift certificate for third place. Those students who were nominated for the National Exam received a \$25 gift certificate, instead of their place amount. The following students had the highest scores within the Virginia Section:

First Year Chemistry Olympiad Local Examination

1. Small School Category

First Place (\$25 gift certificate) - **Gundas Buka** – St. Stephen's & St. Agnes' School

Second Place (\$15) - **Caleb Brown** and **Kevin Buckley** – The Steward School

Third Place (\$10) - **Jung Choi** – Eastern Mennonite School

2. Specialty Schools Category

First Place (\$25 gift certificate) - **Hannah Cockrell** and **Ziyi Gao** – Maggie L. Walker Governor’s School

Second Place (\$15) - **Joseph Wallace** – Chesapeake Bay Governor’s School; **Travis Downes** – Governor’s School of Southside Virginia

Third Place (\$10) - **Kendrik Smith, Jack Allan, Daniel Morton** and **Benjamin Watson** – Maggie L. Walker Governor’s School

3. Large School Category

First Place (\$25 gift certificate) - **Charles Stocs** – Matoaca High School

Second Place (\$15) - **Laura Thomas, Cameron Hastings** and **Matt Michel** – Matoaca High School

Second Year Chemistry Olympiad Local Examination

1. Small School Category

First Place (\$25 gift certificate) - **Patrick Kane** – St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes’ School

Second Place (\$15) - **Rajeev Samtani** – St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes’ School

Third Place (\$10) - **Francis Pinillos** – St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes’ School

2. Governor’s Schools Category

First Place (\$25 gift certificate) - **Yu-sung Huang** – Maggie L. Walker Governor’s School

Second Place (\$15) - **Ilya Dubovoy; David Fisher*** and **Dila Mignouna** - Maggie L. Walker Governor’s School

3. Large School Category

First Place (\$25 gift certificate) - **Samouil Farhi*** – Albemarle High School

Second Place (\$15) - **Greg Echelberg*** – Albemarle High School

Third Place (\$10) - **Jena McDaniel*** - Powhatan High School

* These students were invited to take the National Examination.

Team Awards

Team Awards are given to the school having the highest combined total for three students, separated by category and year. Each of the following schools will be invited to attend the December Meeting of the Virginia Section. These schools will receive a plaque to show they won the team award.

First year Examination

Category	School
Small School	The Steward School
Governor’s School	Maggie Walker Governor’s School
Large School	Matoaca High School

Second Year Examination

Category	School
Small School	St. Stephen's & St Agnes' School
Governor's School	Maggie Walker Governor's School
Large School	Albemarle High School

INTERNATIONAL CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD

The 39th International Chemistry Olympiad was held in Moscow, Russia in July, 2007, with 256 students from 66 countries competing. As usual, the student team from China took top honors, followed by Russia and Poland. Lei Xu of China was the top individual scorer. The U.S. team placed fairly well, but did not earn any Gold Medals. Brian Kihoon Lee, Justin Koh, and Kenneth Brewer received silver medals, while Sofia Izmailov earned a bronze medal. Next year's International Olympiad will be held in Budapest.



CHEMISTRY AT VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

The Virginia Commonwealth University Department of Chemistry has 24 faculty members, approximately 50 graduate students and 200 undergraduate chemistry majors. The department brings in more than \$4 million annually in research and educational grants. The department offers full-time undergraduate programs leading to the Bachelor of Science. The degree concentrations allow students to focus on different aspects of chemistry, depending on their specific interests. The concentrations include chemical science, professional chemist, professional chemist with honors, chemical modeling and biochemistry.



The department also offers full- and part-time graduate programs leading to the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in analytical, inorganic, organic and physical chemistry and to the doctoral degree in chemical physics. A wide range of graduate courses is offered; the courses are small in size and personal in nature. The recent addition of new faculty, new laboratories and the acquisition of new instrumentation provide a firm basis for continued excellence in both teaching and research. A program of studies is tailored to the individual student and is designed to provide a sound background in all areas of chemistry, with emphasis on the student's area of research. The low student-to-faculty ratio ensures that each student receives personal attention.

An important and distinctive feature of the department is close interaction between faculty and students. This interaction, in an active and friendly environment, is designed to promote scholarship, develop experimental ability and stimulate creative thought. Students work side by side with faculty members in small research groups. They are encouraged to present the results of their research at regional and national meetings of the American Chemical Society and other professional organizations.

The department is committed to excellence in both research and teaching. The faculty actively conduct research in the areas of analytical, inorganic, organic, physical, and polymer chemistry and, in cooperation with

the Department of Physics, chemical physics. Faculty members have received training and experience at leading universities, industrial laboratories and national research laboratories. Their excellent and diverse backgrounds ensure a graduate program of quality and balance, one that can meet the varied needs of future professionals. John B. Fenn, Nobel Laureate 2002, is a member of the Department of Chemistry faculty.

State-of-the-art instrumentation used by faculty, graduate students and undergraduate students in courses and research includes magnetic resonance spectroscopy, infrared, uv-vis, and fluorescence spectroscopy, mass spectrometry and liquid and gas chromatography.

A weekly seminar program brings distinguished speakers to the department from academia and industry. Arrangements are made for the speakers to meet with students to discuss research and other topics. The program results in graduates well-prepared for careers in industry, academics and national research laboratories. In addition to the regular seminar program, the annual Mary E. Kapp Lecture in Chemistry brings a chemist of international reputation to the department for a two-day visit. This lecture honors Kapp, the first chairman of the department, who guided the department through its formative years. Kapp established an endowment for the department from her estate. This endowment, in excess of \$3.5 million, was established specifically to support the graduate program in chemistry. It is currently used to fund the seminar program, assistantships for doctoral candidates, and graduate student travel to scientific meetings where they present papers.

TEACHER AWARDS

The Virginia Section is soliciting nominees for two teaching awards: the Outstanding High School Chemistry Teacher Award and the Outstanding Middle School Science Teacher Award. If you would like to nominate persons for these awards, contact Dr. William Rademaker at (804) 794-3752; wrad @ verizon.net. Each award consists of a plaque and a check for \$300.00. The teacher awards are sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim Chemicals; the 2007 awards will be presented at the December 7 Section meeting.

THE VIRGINIA SCIENCE RESOURCE NETWORK

Calling all scientists!

The Virginia Section of the ACS has long been known as proactive, and now our section has teamed up with the Virginia Department of Education to promote recruitment of scientists into the Virginia Science Resource Network (VSRN), a web-based network linking K-12 science teachers with scientists for mentorship. Students eyeing science fair projects, teachers hoping to rejuvenate interest, and educators working to upgrade their approach to science education are all keenly interested in tapping into the wealth of experience ACS offers in what we ourselves have been educated for—doing science.

Registration at www.VSRN.org takes less than five minutes, and firewalls are in place to ensure your time will be used for serious students only. You can opt to volunteer for one or more types of activities, including science project mentoring, a class presentation, or consultation. Science projects begin early in the school year so we urge everyone to visit the site, and spread the word to other Virginia scientists.

The VSRN has been designed and implemented through the work of the Virginia Department of Energy, the Science Museum of Virginia, the Virginia Junior Academy of Science, and other parties devoted to sparking excitement in K-12 science education. The Optical Society of America has also expressed support, and we hope to spread the word to other professional scientist organizations based on the example we at ACS provide.

As a scientist, you've known that levels of interest in science, and of student problem-solving and critical-thinking skills, have clearly bottomed out, and the statistics bearing this out have drawn the attention of state and federal government agencies. Don't let the field you've worked your lifetime to advance die a slow death for lack of interest. The VSRN is a tipping point that demands your involvement, and through it Virginia scientists can make an impact on the local communities, and send a loud and clear message to other states and to Washington.

CHEMISTRY SEMINARS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

September 14 - **Professor Erick Carreira**, ETH - Zurich, "Discovery and Surprises with Small Molecules" (*IRELAND LECTURE*)

September 21 - **Professor Sergey Kozmin**, University of Chicago, "Merging Organic Synthesis and Chemical Biology: From Assembly to Function"

September 28 - **Professor Chad Mirkin**, Northwestern University

October 12 - **Professor Peter Qin**, University of Southern California

November 2 - **Professor James Engstrom**, Cornell University

Chemistry colloquia are held at 4:00 p.m. in Room 304 of the Chemistry Building. The complete colloquium schedule is on-line at <http://www.virginia.edu/chem/newsandevents/seminars/>.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHANGES

Please note the following changes to the Virginia Section Executive Committee list that was published in the March issue of the Bulletin:

new e-mail addresses: Brian Moores - mooresb @ earthlink.net
James Beck - beckjd1977 @ comcast.net
Tara Kishbaugh - tara.kishbaugh @ emu.edu

additions to Members-at-Large: David B. Hagan, Science Museum of Virginia, 2500 W. Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23220; (804) 864-1412; dhagan @ smv.org

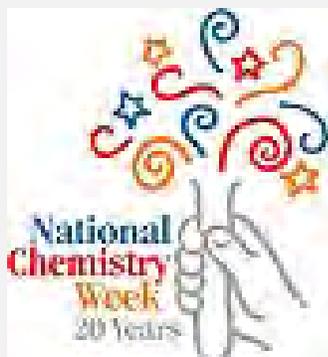
Kevin P. C. Minbide, MSC 4501, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA 22807; (540) 879-3108; minbidkp @ jmu.edu

VIRGINIA SECTION NOMINATED FOR AWARD

Ingrid Montes, Chair of the ACS Committee on Community Activities, has informed the Section of its selection as a finalist for the ACS award for **Greatest Community Involvement in Chemists Celebrate Earth Day**. The award will be presented to the winning section at the ACS National Meeting in Boston. The Virginia Section's nomination reflects the outstanding work of Dr. Kristine Smetana in organizing Earth Day activities at the Science Museum of Virginia and at John Tyler Community College. Kristine also coordinates the Section's programs for National Chemistry Week and is looking for volunteers to help with this year's celebration on October 21-27 (see below).

WORDS OF WISDOM FOR SEPTEMBER : "There are no shortcuts to excellence"

NATIONAL CHEMISTRY WEEK

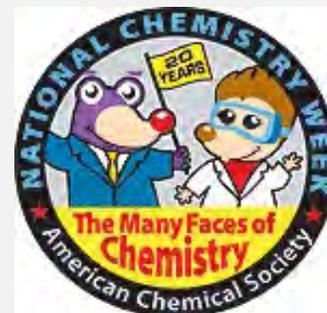


October 21-27, 2007
Theme: "The Many Faces of Chemistry"

Information: <http://www.chemistry.org/ncw>

There will be a NCW Poster Contest for children in kindergarten through 12th grade and a NCW Chemvention Competition for student affiliate chapters. See the ACS Chemistry website for more information on these and other NCW activities. This year marks the 20th Anniversary of the National Chemistry Week program.

The NCW Coordinator for the Virginia Section is Dr. Kristine Smetana, Associate Professor of Chemistry at John Tyler Community College. Contact her for information on NCW activities within the Virginia Section and to volunteer your help for this year's National Chemistry Week: (804) 706-5143; ksmetana @ jtcc.edu.



CAN YOU IDENTIFY THESE PERSONS?

The photograph is from 2007. The couple recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They attended rival high schools but met while each was playing flute in the Hampton Community Band. After he graduated from the University of Richmond and she from the Medical College of Virginia, they married and moved to Charlottesville where he attended graduate school. His research director, Dr. Robert Lutz (a former Chair of the Virginia Section), played clarinet in the Charlottesville Municipal Band and invited them to join that musical group. They played many concerts together and even provided the music for his graduation from UVA. After they moved to Richmond, they both joined the Richmond Concert Band, with whom they have been playing for 25 years. He was Chair of the Virginia Section in 1978 and received the Section's Distinguished Service Award in 1983



The "Mystery persons" shown in the Summer Bulletin are Carl Trindle, Don Shillady, and Jim Beck. They received the Virginia Section's Distinguished Service Award in 2000, 1992, and 1991, respectively.

THE BULLETIN

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