



Division of Nuclear Chemistry and Technology  
*American Chemical Society*

NUCL WWW Home Page – <http://www.cofc.edu/~nuclear>

**NEWSLETTER**  
**July 2012**

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**FROM THE CHAIR – Ken Nash**

For those who may have missed my message in the Spring Newsletter, you have perhaps been wondering why this newsletter did not appear on schedule about a month ago. Others might recall that we have adjusted the dates for the newsletters to provide more timely assistance for those preparing for the Fall National meeting, to be held in Philadelphia, August 19-23. The technical program in Philadelphia will be located in the Philadelphia Convention Center starting Sunday morning and will run through Wednesday afternoon. The Divisional Business meeting will start as usual after the conclusion of Monday afternoon's technical program, immediately followed by the Social Hour. Though all of the programming will be of interest, the highlights of the technical program are the Frances P. Garvin-John M. Olin Medal: Award Symposium in honor of Sue B. Clark - *Environmental Radiochemistry: Recent Advances and Interesting Careers* and *Celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the birth of Glenn T. Seaborg and Charles Coryell*. We plan to post the preliminary program and abstracts to the NUCL website <http://prosper.cofc.edu/~nuclear/?referrer=webcluster&> shortly to assist those of you who will be attending with your planning.

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**SUZANNE LAPI**, 2012-2014

**DAVID MORISSEY**, 2010-2012

The Division has also been active in programming at Regional Meetings, with Dean Peterman having organized a well attended symposium entitled *Chemistry of the Nuclear Fuel Cycle* at the NORM meeting in Boise last month. Financial support for regional programming has been provided through an Innovative Programming Grant (IPG) submitted by Donovan Porterfield. Program Chair Jen Braley brings you all up to date on future programming elsewhere in this newsletter, so I won't belabor the point that we are always in search of your ideas for symposia at future meetings, national, local and regional.

Celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Glenn Seaborg's birth brings to the forefront the question of the future of the NUCL Division National award named in his honor. The ACS Awards Review Committee has again provided us with their feedback on the current status of the award. On the positive side, recipients of the award continue to be scientists of considerable talent and reputation and the nomination pool from year to year has been adequate. We have in the most recent report from the committee been invited to participate with our own enhanced efforts to identify worthy candidates going forward. Strategies for identifying additional nominees will be a topic for discussion at both the Executive Committee and Business meetings in the Philadelphia.

Elsewhere in this Newsletter, Mike Bronikowski reports (in his role as Seaborg Award Financial Committee Chair) on his efforts in developing new sources of revenue to support this award. The challenge is a significant one, as the annual expenses for the award have increased to about \$10,000; ACS sets the funding level for endowment of the award at \$400,000. As a technical Division with about 1000 members, it is clear that the task before us is challenging. Mike's message indicates some of the mechanisms he has facilitated to bridge the gap between

where we are and where we need to be, but there is a lot to be done. It will take a collective effort by the Award finance committee, the Executive Committee and the membership to keep this important award (arguably the only one of its kind in the world) on the books of the ACS into the future. Your comments and suggestions are as always quite welcome. You should expect to hear from Division leadership with suggestions on how you can help in the coming months. Please join us for what may be a quite lively Business meeting in Philadelphia.

### **UPCOMING PROGRAMMING** – *Jenifer Braley*

The NUCL division has been successful in developing strong programming for the Fall 2012 meeting in Philadelphia, the Spring 2013 meeting in New Orleans and Fall 2013 meeting in Indianapolis. Openings for the Spring 2014 meeting in Dallas and further out are still available. Thank you to all current and future organizers for their programming contributions.

### **Fall 2012 – Philadelphia – Materials for Health and Medicine**

- Frances P. Garvin-John M. Olin Medal: Award Symposium in honor of Sue B. Clark - *Environmental Radiochemistry: Recent Advances and Interesting Careers* (Organizers Chris Armstrong, SRNL, Andrew Sowder, Electric Power Research Institute)
- Celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the birth of Glenn T. Seaborg and Charles Coryell (Organizers: Walter Loveland, L. R. Morss, W. B. Walters)
- Young Investigators in Nuclear Science (Organizers: Nathalie Wall, Justin Walensky)
- High Energy Density Physics and Chemistry (Bob Rundberg, LANL, Dawn Shaughnessy, LLNL)

– Thermodynamics and Kinetics: The Basic Science of Separations (Organizers: Leigh Martin, Peter Zalupski) – cosponsored with I&EC/SS&T (primary)

**Spring 2013 – New Orleans – Chemistry of Energy and Food (energy from food)**

– Seaborg Award Symposium  
– Analytical Chemistry in Nuclear Technology (Organizers: Charles Coleman, Dave Hobart and others)

– Nuclear Forensics (Organizers: Glenn Fugate and others) – (NUCL primary – cosponsored with I&EC/SS&T)

– Radiochemistry and risk assessment of food and water contaminated with

radionuclides (Organizers: Michael Arndt, michael.arndt@slh.wisc.edu, 608-224-6227,

Catherine Franklin, catherine.franklin@doh.wa.gov, 206-418-

5448, Thomas Semkow, tms15@health.state.ny.us, 518-474-6071,

Lynn West, lynn.west@slh.wisc.edu, 608-224-

6227, William Cunningham, 301-975-6271, William.Cunningham@fda.hhs.gov)

– General Topics in Nuclear and Radiochemistry (Organizers Ken Nash and Jenifer Braley)

– Isotope Production—Past, Present, and Future: A Symposium Honoring the Legacy of Michael J. Welch (Organizers Dennis Phillips, Suzi Lapi, Silvia Jurisson)

**Fall 2013 – Indianapolis – Chemistry in Motion (transportation)**

– Actinide Materials (Organizers Peter Burns, Ginger Sigmon)

– Young Investigators (Organizers: Nathalie Wall, Mikael Nilsson)

– Nuclear Spectroscopy (Title TBD) (Organizers: Bob Rundberg, other organizers welcome)

– Nuclear Reactions (Title TBD) (Organizers: Walt Loveland, other organizers welcome)

– General Topics in Nuclear and Radiochemistry (Organizers: Ken Nash and Jenifer Braley)

**Spring 2014 – Dallas – Chemistry of Power and Advanced Materials**

– Seaborg Award Symposium

– Global Status of Nuclear Energy (responding to thematic programming)

(Organizer: Ken Nash et al. – others welcome)

– Norm Edelstein Symposium (Title TBD) (Organizers: Al Sattelberger, David Shuh, Lynda Soderholm, David Clark)

**Fall 2014 – San Francisco – Chemistry for a Sustainable World**

- Open

**Several other concepts in development**

Radiochemistry Infrastructure – cooperative with the Health Physics Society

Environmental Radiochemistry (Ralf Sodowe, UNLV, Spring 2014?)

Archaeometry (contact Dave Robertson)

**SEABORG AWARD– *Mike Bronikowski***

As was noted in the Chair's column, the Division has received again a negative letter about the Seaborg award in July, mainly because the national awards committee members have changed and they will only see a small funding reserve (\$6,000 before our first solicitation attempt) in the ACS account to support the award. Progress to date on setting up a Seaborg Award Funding Committee was reported at the National ACS meeting in Anaheim and updated in San Diego. The Committee could use a few more volunteers to help. Of particular interest would be colleagues with ideas concerning, or better yet connections to, potential corporate sponsors for the award. We have begun to solicit funds starting with a pledge card that was handed out at the 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration symposium for Glenn Seaborg in

April. We will be handing out similar pledge cards at the symposium *Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Birth of Glenn T. Seaborg and Charles Coryell* in Philadelphia. We hope to do better than we did in our first attempt, but the harsh reality is that this method may not provide the level of funding we need to sustain the award. Nor will the plea in the last newsletter to send checks to our treasurer work.

At the business meeting in San Diego, the suggestion made to find a way to enable donations to be made online, which would allow the donor to use a credit card. Well, we have found that the ACS has a donation page that allows one to donate with a credit card and it actually works! I can attest to this as the ACS contact person called me to say they rarely if ever get money donated to the award. The person who tested the process got a receipt for taxes too! To assist your navigation to the correct web location at the often non-intuitive ACS website, the following directions are offered:

go to the ACS webpage

<http://portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/content> .

On this page on the top right in **Blue** is the word **Governance** - click on it. The next page that opens has on the far left side above the word **governance**, the word **Donate**.

Then click on **ways to donate**. Click on the underlined words **Donate Online**. To donate to the **Seaborg Award**, you will have to type in the box that says **other program** "Seaborg award". To go directly to this page, copy and paste this link

[https://www.donate.acs.org/eweb/ACSOLGTemplate.aspx?site=ACS\\_Giving&WebCode=all\\_programs](https://www.donate.acs.org/eweb/ACSOLGTemplate.aspx?site=ACS_Giving&WebCode=all_programs)

## **ELECTIONS**– *Mike Bronikowski*

We need candidates to run for two positions in the 2012 division elections. The first position is that of Vice Chair for 2013. The division alternates this position yearly

between the academic and industry/national laboratory community. For 2013 we will be looking for candidates in the industrial/laboratory community. This position is the start to becoming divisional chair in 2015. If you are interested in meeting people, increasing the awareness of the nuclear field, and building the division, this is a job for you. The second position is that of Member at Large, Executive Committee 2013-2015. The Member at Large position helps out the executive committee on various projects that come up throughout the year. If you are interested in running for either position or have questions you can get in touch with me or the secretary. If you know of someone you think would be a good candidate, let us know so we can persuade them to be interested.

## **ACS REGIONAL MEETINGS**

Nuclear Chemistry. RMRM 2012 will be held at the Westin hotel in Westminster, Colorado over October 17-20, 2012. For information on participating in that symposium please contact Donivan Porterfield ([dporterfield@lanl.gov](mailto:dporterfield@lanl.gov)) or visit the ACS website and find your way to the meetings home page.

## **COUNCILORS' REPORT** – *Steve Yates and Graham Peaslee*

The ACS Council meeting in Philadelphia will be a fairly busy one. There will be the usual reports from Society officers and committee chairs, and elections will be held for membership on the elected committees of the Society—the Committee on Committees (ConC), the Council Policy Committee (CPC), and the Committee on Nominations and Elections (N&E). In addition, there are four action items and one for consideration, and a special discussion item. It promises to be a long and lively Councilors' meeting.

The first petition for action is a request by ConC to consider forming a Committee on Senior Chemists, to replace the Senior Chemists Task Force formed in 2009. Suggested by the demographics of the ACS, which now include more than 40% of its members over the age of 50, this Committee would serve the interests of this segment of the membership and act as a conduit for senior members to volunteer and contribute their energy and talent.

The second action item comes from N&E, whose responsibility it is to keep the six geographical “districts” of the ACS evenly balanced in population. The proposal is to relocate two local sections (Hampton Roads and Western Maryland) from District II to District III. N&E also has suggested wording changes to the Bylaws on position statements of candidates for President-Elect or for the Board of the Society, stating that they would no longer be accepted in C&E News after May 1st in the year of the election. The intent of this revision is to make the date limit explicit in the Bylaws.

The Committee on Local Section Activities will ask the Council to approve a change to the Bylaws governing local section dues allotments. The Committee would like to remove the consumer price index escalator and base local section allotments solely on the number of members, in order to insure future solvency.

In addition, the Councilors will consider a petition to revise the Bylaws to remove the phrase that international chapters “shall receive no allotment of funds,” to a more general statement that allows the Board, at its discretion, to support an international chapter for a specific activity.

Finally, up for consideration but not a formal vote at the Council meeting is a petition to revise the national election procedures for President-Elect. The proposed Bylaws changes would charge N&E to find two candidates for President-Elect. Others, as now, may be nominated by members by petition, and procedures for preferential balloting remain unchanged. All candidates could then be invited to a public forum, such as a Town Hall meeting, at the fall national meeting, and would appear on the ballot. This process would (1) substantially ease the burden on N&E, (2) shorten the campaign season – much desired by all, and (3) allow all candidates to be seen by the ACS Council and other members at the fall national meeting.

In addition to all these discussions and votes, there will be a special discussion about the crisis in availability of water suitable for drinking, agriculture, and industry. Addressing the global water crisis is consistent with the Society’s mission to “advance the broader chemistry enterprise and its practitioners for the benefit of Earth and its people.”

Steve continues to serve on the ACS Committee on Meetings and Expositions (M&E) and is a candidate for election to N&E. Graham looks forward to his initial ACS committee appointment next year.