

THE GOLD STANDARD

Student Newsletter

Analytical Chemistry Division, Canadian Society for Chemistry

Fall 2010

In This Issue:

Upcoming Conferences

Student Award Winners

Former Student Profile

Funding Opportunities

...And More



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OTHER BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE ACD (CSC)

In addition to the activities of the particular Student Chapter, membership will confer the following benefits for students:

- Receipt of Canadian Chemical News/ L'Actualité Chimique Canadienne for members in 2nd and higher years (by bulk mail);
- Eligibility to apply for group insurance on car and home insurance through Monnex Inc.;
- Use of the CIC Employment Service for students in the final year of their program who are seeking permanent employment after graduation;
- Substantially reduced registration fees for the annual CSC Conference;
- Full membership in the CSC in the first year after graduation for one-half of the full membership fee.

Eligibility for a range of scholarships and awards, a comprehensive list of which is given in this newsletter.

SCIENCE WEBSITES

www.chemweb.com/
www.chemcenter.org

FURTHER ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY LINKS

ACD Web Page:

<http://ftp.cheminst.ca/divisions/analytical/home.htm>

ACS Division of Analytical Chemistry:

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



Upcoming Conferences TBA

ICASS 2011

57th International Conference on Analytical Sciences and Spectroscopy (ICASS 2011) sponsored by The Spectroscopy Society of Canada. Watch for information on where this will be held at:

www.icass.ca

CSC 2011 - Montréal

The 94th annual Conference of the Canadian Society for Chemistry will be held this year in Montreal, Quebec. The conference takes place June 5-9, 2011. Watch for further details about the conference at the website: www.csc2011.ca

Note: Analytical Chemistry Division Annual CSC Dinner Well attended and a tradition for the last couple of decades, the annual dinner for the ACD is held on a suitable night during the CSC Conference at a local restaurant. All students are welcome and typically receive discounted meals. After dinner activities are always a highlight! Keep your ears open for announcements concerning the date and location.

Undergraduate Student Conferences – 2010 - 2011

39th Southern Ontario Undergraduate Student Chemistry Conference (SOUSCC)

University of Waterloo, March, 2011.

Information: Dr. Michael Chong, jmchong@uwaterloo.ca

Western Canadian Undergraduate Chemistry Conference (WCUCC)

To be held in May 2011. Location and host to be announced soon.

More Information To Come.

ChemCon (CIC-APICS Atlantic Student Chemistry Conference)

University of Prince Edward Island, May 2011.

Information: Dr. Jason Pearson, jpearson@upei.ca

22^E Colloque de Chimie

University of Sherbrooke, October 22, 2010.

Information: <http://pages.usherbrooke.ca/colloque-chimie/>

Be sure to watch for more information on these conferences in the coming months.

Analytical Chemistry Presentation Awards at undergraduate student conferences

Each of the four regional undergraduate conferences are eligible to receive \$250 for an award for the best oral or poster presentation on a topic related to analytical chemistry. A request from the conference organizers should be made to the ACD Chair, Dr. Mark McDermott (mark.mcdermott@ualberta.ca). Judging is the responsibility of designated faculty members in attendance at the meeting. Organizers should later notify the ACD Chair of the award winners.

2010 ANALYTICAL STUDENT AWARD WINNERS

2010 Graduate Student Award in Honor of Douglas E. Ryan

Dajana Vuckovic from the University of Waterloo (Ph.D. Supervisor: Prof. J. Pawliszyn). The title of Dajana's award presentation was "Solid Phase Microextraction as a New Sample Preparation Approach for Global Metabolomics Studies using Liquid Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry", and it was presented in the Novel Separations and Detection in Analytical Chemistry: Applications in Academia, Government, and Industry symposium of the 2010 CSC meeting in Toronto. Dajana is currently working as a Postdoctoral fellow at the Donnelly Centre for Cellular and Biomolecular Research at University of Toronto.

2010 Graduate Poster Awards

Sandy Shuo Zhao, Université de Montréal (J.-F. Masson, supervisor)
"Characterization of Drug-molecular Receptor Interaction based on Highly Sensitive Localized Surface Plasmonic Structures"

Mahmoud Bahnasy, The University of Alberta (C.A. Lucy, supervisor)
"Surfactant Bilayer Coatings in Narrow-Bore Capillaries in Capillary Electrophoresis"

Ryan Irving, honorable mention, Queens University (R. Oleschuk, supervisor)
"Exploring Micro-Structured Fibre as a Support for Reverse Phase Open Tubular Liquid Chromatography"

Amy Hrdina, honorable mention, Carleton University (E. Lai, supervisor)
"The Development of a Sr(II) Selective Polymer for the Determination of Sr-90 in Urine"

2010 Travel Award

E. Jane Maxwell, University of British Columbia, Chemistry Department (David Chen, supervisor). "Improved flow rate compatibility of electrospray ionization with capillary electrophoresis through optimization of the emitter geometry" presented at the 25th International Symposium on Microscale Bioseparations (March 2010), Prague.

2010 Undergraduate Regional Conference Analytical Awards

38th Southern Ontario Undergraduate Student Chemistry Conference (SOUSCC)

Tomasz Czarny, The University of Western Ontario, "Exploring the Structure of Proteins by Oxidative Labeling and Mass Spectrometry" (supervisor : Lars Konnerman)

Katarina Markovic, York University, "Zinc Fingers: Understanding Zn(II) Interactions with Amino Acids and short Oligopeptides" (supervisor: Diethard Bohme)

2010 ChemCon (CIC-APICS Atlantic Student Chemistry Conference)

Emma Hebb, Acadia University, "Ternary Phase Extraction of Environmental Solid Samples"

Chris Earle, Memorial University, "Chitin: A Promising Biopolymer from Shrimp & Crab Waste"

2010 Western Canadian Undergraduate Chemistry Conference (WCUCC)

Curtis Whale, University of Alberta, "Determining the Presence of a Kinetic Effect on Retention in Gas Chromatography", Best Overall Poster (supervisor: James Harynuk)

Jade Lam, University of Alberta, "Tweaking the Backbone: Tuning DNA Stability to Generate Catalytic Properties", Best Analytical Poster (supervisor: Julianne Gibbs-Davis)

ABOUT THE STUDENT AWARDS

ACD Undergraduate Student Travel Award

The intent of the award is to honor outstanding senior undergraduate students in analytical chemistry, to encourage them into postgraduate studies and to expose them to a stimulating scientific environment at the annual Canadian Chemical Conference. The Undergraduate Student Travel awards are open to all undergraduate students pursuing studies in the area of Analytical Chemistry and in attendance of a Canadian University, irrespective of the conference site of a given year. Each winner is expected to give a poster presentation of his/her work at the conference.

An award of \$500 will be made on the basis of the academic excellence and research promise of the nominees. These students will normally have completed a summer research project, or a Co-op term, or a senior year research project, in the area of analytical chemistry. The undergraduate student travel awardees and their supervisors are invited to attend the ACD Award Reception after the Annual General Meeting of the ACD at the annual meeting.

Each University Chemistry Department may nominate one candidate.

For more information concerning this award, contact the ACD chair, Dr. Mark McDermott (mark.mcdermott@ualberta.ca)

ACD Graduate Student Poster Award Montréal 2011

Graduate students who will be making poster presentations on a subject related to Analytical Chemistry in the ACD poster session are eligible for this award. Only one submission per student is permitted.

An *ad hoc* judging committee will be established prior to the meeting. Committee members will question each candidate and assess the quality of the poster. Two awards of \$150 will be given.

Students that wish to be considered for this award should contact Dr. Mark McDermott (mark.mcdermott@ualberta.ca) prior to the conference in May 2011.

Douglas Ryan Award Walter Harris Award (Graduate Student award)

These prestigious awards, named in honour of two senior and well-known analytical chemists in Canada (Dr. Douglas Ryan of Dalhousie University and Dr. Walter Harris from the University of Alberta) are presented in alternate years to an outstanding senior graduate student in analytical chemistry in Canada. Nominations are solicited from Canadian Universities each fall, by contacting both Chemistry Department Heads and all Professors who are active in research in analytical chemistry. The selection of the recipient is made on the basis of outstanding research contributions and the excellence of the academic record. The recipient of the award, who receives a cash award and framed certificate, is expected to make a presentation at the next annual CSC meeting. The awardee, and supervisor, are invited to attend the ACD Award Reception, normally held after the Annual General Meeting of the ACD at the annual CSC conference.

For more information about this award, contact the Analytical Division chairperson.

PHOTO GALLERY



Sandy Shuo Zhao accepts her 2010 Poster Award from ACD President Dr. Robert McLaren.



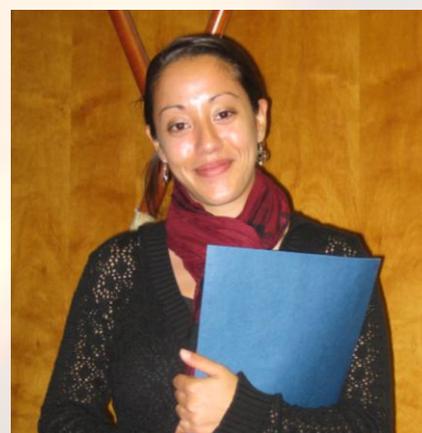
Dr. Nick Tolft presents the 2010 Douglas E. Ryan Award to Dajana Vuckovic.



ACD President Dr. Robert McLaren presents Mahmoud Bahnasy his 2010 Poster Award.



Ryan Irving is presented his 2010 Poster Award by Dr. Kevin Thurbide.



2010 Poster Award recipient Amy Hrdina.

FORMER STUDENT PROFILE:

MEET *Dr. RICHARD PAPROSKI*

Title: Research Chemist

Company: Syncrude Canada Ltd

Undergraduate Institution: U of Alberta

Graduate Institution: U of Alberta

PhD Supervisor: Dr. Charles Lucy



Favorite Memory of Graduate School:

Helping to form the Chemistry Graduate Students' Society at the University of Alberta and meeting so many great chemistry graduate students in the process. A close second was learning to play hockey as an adult on the chemistry graduate student campus recreation hockey team. Despite falling down often, it was so much fun that I still play on the same team as an alumnus.

Hardest Thing After Graduating:

Shifting gears from focusing my attention and efforts on one specific project in one particular area of analytical chemistry (i.e. my thesis) to a large number of very applied projects that cover many different areas of analytical chemistry. This was both challenging and very rewarding at the same time. Be forewarned: some day you may find yourself in a room full of non-chemists, and be expected to provide the answers to a wide array of analytical and non-analytical chemistry questions, including some on course subjects that were perhaps not among your favorites!

Nicest Thing After Graduating:

The exciting new challenges and the opportunity to continue learning in a completely different environment from academia are really nice. Having a steady pay-cheque and not having to either write or mark exams are really nice too.

How I Came to My Current Position:

I was very fortunate to have financial support for my doctoral research from several sources, including Syncrude Canada Ltd. Upon completion of my PhD, I was again very fortunate to be offered full-time employment at Syncrude's Research & Development Centre in the Edmonton Research Park.

Best Career Advice I Ever Received:

Advice from Dr. Margaret-Ann Armour to participate in the Industrial Internship Program when I was in the 3rd year of my B.Sc. This sparked my interest in performing highly applied industrial research. It gave me very valuable research experience as an undergraduate and also important contacts within industry. My internship helped convince me to pursue my doctoral degree, and also helped pay for my tuition. Looking back, it essentially doubled the value that I received from my B.Sc. degree. Thanks Margaret-Ann!

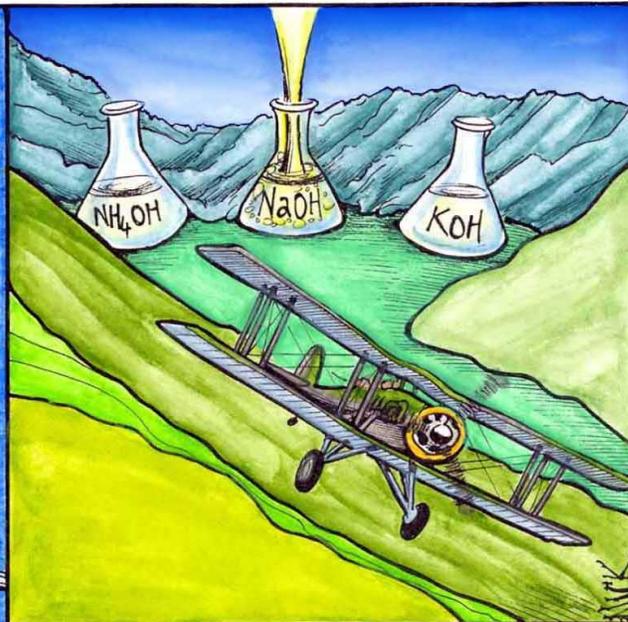
Analytical Chemistry Students Should:

Try to retain as much knowledge from your undergraduate and graduate degrees as possible. Trying to sell yourself as a specialist who knows everything about technique "A" but little about anything else is really not an option, especially in today's job market. Also, actively seek out new challenges, not because they are easy, but because they will help you to grow. Besides, where is the fun in always staying within your comfort zone?

LAB INITIO
by Nick D Kim



Despite the heavy flak, McAlister's aim was true, and his carefully measured aliquot of hydrochloric acid found its mark deep in the enemy's reservoir of sodium hydroxide.



McAlister grinned wryly: finally, one of the enemy's strongest bases had been completely neutralized.

Have a suggestion or an item for the next Student Newsletter? Let us know!

e-mail: thurbide@ucalgary.ca