

# KALCHEMIST NEWS

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*November-December, 2004*



**Message from the Chair**  
**Patrick Irish**

Fall is upon us and the leaves are mostly gone. Why did they change color? Where did the reds and yellows come from, or were they there all along? Hint: this makes a great paper chromatography experiment.

The ballots for voting for next years' officers have been received, and were tallied at the EC meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> of November. Please congratulate your new chair elect Mike Kiella, your new treasurer Shawn Hawk, and your continuing councilor Dean Cooke.

Saturday November 6<sup>th</sup> was Chemistry Day at the museum. The theme this year was Health and Wellness. The demonstrations and hands on participation events were very well received, and the event had about 1000 people attend. Please read about it later in this newsletter, and thank our coordinator Julie Lorenz for her hard work and a successful event. Thanks also to the many volunteers that helped with demonstrations, setup and takedown, and traffic control.

Those who volunteered are pretty happy with the success of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade elementary outreach effort, "Science is Fun." This project put chemistry demonstrations in the local public schools during the week of 18-22 October. The reports from the volunteers are that the students were very enthusiastic, as were the teachers. If interested in helping out with future outreach efforts, please contact Monica Whitmire, [Monica.L.Whitmire@pfizer.com](mailto:Monica.L.Whitmire@pfizer.com), Rebecca Johnson, [Rebecca.L.Johnson@pfizer.com](mailto:Rebecca.L.Johnson@pfizer.com), or Niki Waldron, [Niki.A.Waldron@pfizer.com](mailto:Niki.A.Waldron@pfizer.com).

I have thoroughly enjoyed my tenure as your chair, and wish my successor Kent Alleman a good year as well. Please assist him in his efforts by attending meetings and volunteering to help with local section activities.

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## Science is Fun!

“Science is Fun” is a program sponsored by Pfizer and the Kalamazoo section of the ACS for 5th graders in the Kalamazoo and Portage area elementary schools that have low 2003 Science MEAP scores. Half-day programs were presented during National Chemistry Day week (October 18-22) and were designed to get kids interested in science through various hands-on activities.

If you have any ideas on programming or would like to volunteer, please contact Monica Whitmire ([Monica.L.Whitmire@pfizer.com](mailto:Monica.L.Whitmire@pfizer.com), 269-833-3619), Rebecca Johnson ([Rebecca.L.Johnson@pfizer.com](mailto:Rebecca.L.Johnson@pfizer.com), 269-833-8653), or Niki Waldron ([Niki.A.Waldron@pfizer.com](mailto:Niki.A.Waldron@pfizer.com), 269-833-1975) for more information.



**Monica Whitmire** helps students solve a fictitious crime using concepts of forensic science and A, B, O and Rh<sub>o</sub> blood typing. The crime was a robbery. The evidence: a blood-stained broken window. Students attempted to match the blood sample found at the crime scene to the blood types of four suspects.

Who knew that separating colored ink could be so much fun? Pfizer volunteers **Jeff Poliak** (right) and **Syed Hasan** (far end of table) introduced the students to separation science by performing paper chromatography. Looking on at left is a Woods Lake teacher.



## Chemistry Day 2004

KACS co-hosted another successful Chemistry Day with the Kalamazoo Valley Museum. We had over 25 demonstrations, 200 volunteers, and 1000 visitors. The theme this year was "Health and Wellness." In addition to the old favorites, new experiments included demonstrations on: sunscreen, hand washing, tablet making, Vitamin C, iron in cereal, forensic science, the biological microworld and more. We were even featured on the 11 o'clock news!

Thanks to all of the great volunteers and companies that donated supplies:

### **Kalamazoo College**

Joclyn Davis  
Samantha Weaver  
Sarah Booth  
Emily Cornwell  
Nick Beimer  
Andrea Yancon  
Brendan Butler  
John Hofferberth  
Kristin Hofferberth  
Hoan Nguyen  
Vanessa Wyant

### **Kalamazoo Valley Community College/Kalamazoo Valley Museum**

Annette Hoppenworth  
Lydia Hines (Wally and  
daughter)  
Charissa Oliphant  
Kathy Smith  
Derek Crouch  
Corey Lee  
Tim Caldwell  
Amanda Chopp  
Jessica Buchanan  
Whitney White  
Claudia Flores  
Kristine Newton  
Christine Schaefer  
Christine Noak  
Dawne Aumann  
Kathy Taylor  
Jason Koenig

### **Pfizer**

Scott Aldrich  
Mary Aldrich  
Jill Alge  
Angela Anson  
Christopher Glass  
Leslie Hawley  
Patrick Irish  
Rebecca Johnson  
Karina Kwok  
Ben Maxey  
David Russell  
Cliff Sacks  
Carl Stachew  
Julie Wittbrodt  
Kent Alleman  
Stacy Bailey  
Julie Bauer  
Kim Greve  
Christos Spilson  
Lori Todd  
Mike Dunn  
Derrick Townsend  
John Stodola  
Monica Whitmire  
Shawn Hawk  
Niki Waldron  
Jay Patterson  
Sheila Deneau  
Michael Stallings  
Julie Lorenz

### **Western Michigan University**

Donald Schreiber  
Christian Schreiber  
(Portage Northern)  
Curtis Deer  
Beth Sodt  
John Beck  
Kyle Weber  
Jacob Wood  
Andy Whiteman  
Ryan Davis  
Matt Suo  
Rachel Hagenstein  
Hugh Little  
Allison Fillwock  
Brad Neuder  
Eric Statler  
Jordan Cole  
Riley Pepper

### **Other Affiliations**

Blue Heron  
Academy/Dan Morris  
Sheryl Loux  
Erik Johnson  
Sharon Barbour  
Beatrice Hinton

### **Kalamazoo Area Mathematics and Science Center**

Joe Thorstenson  
Ryan James  
Hussian Turk  
Madeline Nykaza  
Eneke Mwakasisi  
Jeremy Liggett  
Sri Aravamathan  
Ben English  
Ewa Slotwinski  
Jessica Song  
Sara Morgan  
Meisha Merati  
Matt Gumbleton  
Jasmine Zheng  
Nora Kuiper  
Scott Beck  
Tim Caldwell  
Matt Hambright  
Melissa Camhi  
Jesse Baker  
Andy Ingebritson  
Christina Deleeuw  
Sara Maihofer  
Caitlin Kelly  
Rupal Patel  
Nicole Rodia  
Amanda Rutishauser  
Mae Neuman  
Kayla Waldron  
James Nichols  
Hannah Lucero  
Jeffrey Osowski  
All the KAMSC  
sophomores who baked  
cupcakes!

We also thank Pfizer, KVM, Rohm and Haas, and Rx Optical for donating supplies for the demonstrations.

And special thanks to our Chemistry Day coordinator Julie Lorenz for all of her hard work!



## Highlights from Chemistry Day 2004



### Dancing Milk!

A KVM volunteer, Sheila Deneau, Kent Alleman, and a WMU student demonstrate how to make milk dance using chemistry.

### Wash your hands!

*Charissa Oliphant, Allison Fillwock and Brad Neuder.*

A lotion containing “pretend germs” is spread on the childrens’ hands. After the children have washed their hands, an ultraviolet light is used to see if any “pretend germs” remain. Any areas that are not washed well would glow under the ultraviolet light.



### Chemiluminescence

Kristin Hofferberth is introducing the concept of chemiluminescence to the audience.



## Liquid Nitrogen

*Dave Russell and Leslie Hawley*

Dave is filling up a dewar with liquid nitrogen in preparation for the demonstration.



## Forensic Science – An Investigation *Cliff Sacks*

The “investigators” are briefed about the crime scene.

## Slime!

*WMU student affiliates*

WMU student affiliates of the American Chemical Society are assisting the visitors in making slime.



# **Councilor's Report of the 228th ACS National Meeting Philadelphia, Pa August 22-26, 2004.**

This is the first part of the report from our councilor Dean Cooke from the ACS National Meeting in Philadelphia. The second part of the report will be published in the next issue of the newsletter.

## **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

President Casey discussed some of his activities. In April he joined with 30 ACS members in meeting with senators and representatives to advocate for increased support for basic research through the Department of Energy, Office of Science. This resulted in a 3% increase of the budget for the Office of Science. President Casey inaugurated a new program called the Academic Employment Initiative which is a pilot program aimed at broadening the faculty recruiting process. He also would like to see green chemistry incorporated to a greater extent in our undergraduate and graduate education.

## **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT-ELECT**

President-Elect Carroll outlined the three agenda areas that will be themes for his year as president. 1. Enterprise 2015 which will look at the changing nature of the Chemistry Enterprise in the US- in industry, education and government. 2. Encouragement of high school teachers at national and regional meetings. 3. Outreach, particularly with regard to the public's perception of chemists and chemistry.

## **REPORT OF THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**

Past President Reichmanis described some of the activities that highlighted her year as president. She has committed herself to communicating with top executives in the industries where our members are employed. Because our members are increasingly being classified with job titles that don't include the word "chemistry", it is important that the ACS support all professionals working in chemistry and expand the multidisciplinary activities of the Society.

## **ACTIONS OF THE BOARD**

The Board's Committees and Task Forces

- The Board received a progress report from its task force on strategic alliances, which is drafting a framework "stage gates" of sequential decisions to guide the Society as it pursues new endeavors. The Board also was updated on its continued discussions with the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.
- Earlier this year a task force on ACS development activities began studying opportunities for an expanded development program at the Society. At this meeting, the Board voted to centralize and expand the Society's development activities, effective January 1, 2005.

## **The Society's Finances**

- The Board received a report from the Committee on Budget and Finance and was advised that the Society is projected to end 2004 with a net contribution from operations of \$1,531,000, which is \$60,000 favorable to the approved budget.
- On the recommendation of the Society's Budget and Finance Committee, the Board voted the following actions: to include funding for ChemCensus 2005 in the '05 proposed budget at a cost of \$229,000; to fund the PROGRESS Project in the proposed 2005 budget at a cost of \$160,000, \$94,000 in 2006, and \$98,000 in 2007; and to defer consideration of the Leadership Development Project for further clarification of the project's focus and metrics and to resubmit a modified proposal at the earliest opportunity.

## **ACTIONS OF THE COUNCIL**

### **Candidate Statement Guidelines: President-Elect and Board of Directors**

- The Council discussed a recent decision by the Committee on Nominations to reduce the allowable length for candidate statements (President-Elect and Board of Directors) from 1000 words to 750. A resolution was defeated at Council that would have allowed candidate statements to be 1000 words or more.

### **Proposal for an Ethics Committee**

- The Committee on Committees presented to Council a proposal for establishing an Ethics Committee as an Other Committee of the Council. The charge of this committee would be as follows: To coordinate the ethics-related activities of the Society; serve as an educational resource and clearinghouse, but not as an adjudicatory body, for ACS members seeking guidance on ethics issues; raise awareness of ethics issues through meeting programming and columns/editorials; review recognition opportunities for acknowledging ethical behavior; and develop and oversee such other ethics-related activities as will serve ACS members and promote the Society's standards of ethical conduct within the profession of chemistry and its related disciplines. The Council voted to refer the recommendation back to the Committee on Committees for further study.

### **Membership Statistics**

- The Council was informed that as of June 30, 2004, total ACS membership stood at 154,945. Compared to last year, this represents less than a 1% decrease in the overall membership number. The good news is that the very impressive 50% increase in the recent graduates joining the Society experienced at year-end last year is continuing. At the end of June, more than 6,800 new members had been added to the membership rolls, which aligns well with the number at the same time last year.



# 2004-2005 KACS Calendar

Contact the person in parentheses to answer questions or to volunteer

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- December 2, 2004    KACS Executive Committee Meeting, Pfizer B126 CR, 5:00pm
- January 6, 2005    KACS Executive Committee Meeting, Pfizer B126 CR, 5:00pm
- February 3, 2005    KACS Executive Committee Meeting, Pfizer B126 CR, 5:00pm
- March 3, 2005    KACS Executive Committee Meeting, Pfizer B126 CR, 5:00pm
- April 7, 2005    KACS Executive Committee Meeting, Pfizer B126 CR, 5:00pm
- April 19, 2005    **Spring Tour Speaker**  
"The Chemistry of Wine"  
J. Ernest Simpson - California State Polytechnic University  
(Kent Alleman, [kent.s.alleman@pfizer.com](mailto:kent.s.alleman@pfizer.com), 269-833-5396)

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