SEAC COMMUNICATIONS

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President's Message

Some exhibitor correspondence I recently received indicated that there were more than 34,000 attendees at the Pittsburgh Conference. These new heights may bring exhibit saturation for individuals - at least this viewer missed, for the first time, walking past each display to see what the world of instruments et al. has brought forth (no, not age, just finite time). Even being selective by an interest profile would invoke a traveling salesman computation of awesome dimensions. Since there appears no end to either the product mix growth or the tendency of suppliers not to wish to be less on view than the competition, I imagine this sideshow for SEAC meetings will hold near these levels to Chicago and New Orleans and wherever the facilities still remain large enough.

SEAC continues to add its quality air to the festivities and the occasion of the first Reilley Award going overseas (with Jean-Michel Savéant) had a particular luster befitting the international stature. We thank Dick Buck and his selection committee, Fred Anson as persuasive Symposium Organizer, Mark Meyerhoff as Activities Chairman for the reception, and our distinguished speakers Al Bard, Rudy Marcus, Larry Faulkner, and Dennis Evans for adding imaginative insights to grace the award lecture of the Reilley winner.

At the Board of Directors meeting, it became apparent that, with the prudent stewardship of our treasurers past and present, the continuing benefactions of BAS, Inc. to the Reilley Award, and an achievable reduction in the ranks of electroanalytical types not yet SEAC members, we will have the financial capacity to consider new forms of recognition, to younger folks this time. This ought to be part of our function to propagate the accomplishments of our field. We hope that more will be heard of this during the coming year, but, in the meantime, we encourage the members to seek out those who should be investing their $15/year in SEAC.

On a final note of expansion, SEAC plans to co-sponsor the symposium on New Directions in Electroanalytical Chemistry at the Washington, DC meeting of the Electrochemical Society, Inc., May 5-10, 1991. SEAC members can participate in this joint function with the Physical Electrochemistry Division of the ECS at ECS member rates (a savings equal to five years of SEAC membership!). Janet Osteryoung has written the Call for Papers which will appear in J. Electrochem. Soc. shortly.

Barry Miller

Editorial

I goofed! In my last editorial, I discussed the Kolthoff "family tree" and noted some of his notable descendents. Included among these I listed Sawyer (as in Don T.) as one of Lingane's students. Well, my old nemesis, Fred Anson, pointed out (with a bit of a smirk, I might add) that Sawyer was, in fact, not one of Lingane's students. On rechecking, I must admit that Fred, as usual, was correct; Sawyer was a student of Pecsok, who had been one of Lingane's students. So I was off by one generation, mea culpa! Everyone's entitled to one mistake in his lifetime.

As Barry noted in his President's Message, the Pittsburgh Conference was very successful, both generally and especially with regard to SEAC. The Reilley Award Symposium was a great success, with excellent speakers and a very large turnout to honor Jean-Michel Savéant. At the SEAC general meeting which followed the symposium, the results of the recent election were announced:

Royce W. Murray, President
Joseph T. Maloy, Secretary
Franklin A. Schultz, Treasurer

and, in a very tight balloting for the Board of Directors,

Hector D. Abruna
Therese M. Cotton
Charles R. Martin

were elected. Congratulations, one and all.

Back in August, 1988, some of you may have noticed that the National Bureau of Standards became the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). While some of us oldtimers have a hard time remembering to use the new name, Pete Kissinger suggested that I write a brief article

describing how this came about. This article appears elsewhere in this issue.

However, I want to invite everyone to contribute similar articles describing their organization; not necessarily precipitated by a reorganization or name change, but mainly to inform us of activities of general interest.

Finally, congratulations to our SEAC President, Barry Miller, on his recent appointment as Editor of the Journal of the Electrochemical Society. This is indeed a great honor and I am sure you all join me in wishing Barry well in this new endeavor. Along a similar vein, I recently heard that George Morrison will be retiring as Editor of Analytical Chemistry. It crossed my mind that, if a SEACer should become editor of that journal also, it would add significantly to the list of our members who are currently editors of several of the most prestigious technical journals in the world.

Dick Durst

New Members

Brian Balazs
Caltech, 11/27

Allan Witkowski
University of Florida, 11/29

Stephanie Myers
University of Florida, 12/1

Kwok-Keung Shiu
Caltech, 12/1

Juan Miguel Marioli, CBAR
University of Kansas, 12/27

Nicholas M. Pontikos
Ohio State University, 12/29

Li-Huey Wu
New Mexico State University, 1/16/90

James C. Bigelow
University of Vermont, 2/5

Letters

Dear **Dick:**

As you may know, I will be moving to Colorado State University as Professor of Chemistry on June 1, 1990. This move was primarily motivated by my wife's desire to secure an assistant professorship in veterinary medicine; CSU has made both her and I offers. Because of the excellent programs in chemistry and veterinary medicine at CSU, we have accepted these offers.

I would like to hire two postdoctoral research associates as soon as I arrive at CSU. An announcement describing these positions is enclosed. Would you please publicize these positions in SEAC "Communications."

I thank you for your help in publicizing these postdoctoral positions.

Charles R. Martin, Professor

Barry Miller Appointed Editor

On October 19, 1989, the Board of Directors at its meeting at the Hollywood, Florida, Meeting of the Society, confirmed the recommendation of the Publication Committee to appoint Barry Miller the Editor of This *Journal* for a five-year term beginning January 1, 1990.

Barry Miller was born in Passaic, New Jersey, and received the A.B. degree, Summa Cum Laude in chemistry, from Princeton University in 1955. His Ph.D. in chemistry was awarded in 1959 by M.I.T. He was an instructor in chemistry at Harvard University 1959-1962 and in 1962 became a member of the Technical Staff at AT&T Bell Laboratories where he has since served in various departments of the Materials Science Research Division.

His research interests have included electroanalytical, corrosion science, chemistry, photoelectrochemistry, electrosynthesis, inter-facial kinetics, and materials stability and processing. He has published about 110 papers in these areas and holds 13 U.S. patents. Since 1974 he has been a Divisional Editor for the Physical Electrochemistry Division for The Journal of the ***Electrochemical Society.***

Dr. Miller is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi, the American Chemical

What's In A Name?

On August 23, 1988, as a result of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act, NBS formally became NIST, the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Title 5, Subtitle B, Part 1, the Technology Competitiveness Act, made changes which constitute the most important legislation affecting this agency since it was founded in 1901.

The law states that NIST is intended to assist industry in the development of technology and procedures needed to improve quality, to modernize manufacturing processes, to ensure product reliability, manufacturability, functionality, and cost-effectiveness, and to facilitate the more rapid commercialization, especially by small- and medium-sized companies throughout the United States, of products based on new scientific discoveries in fields such as automation, electronics, advanced materials, biotechnology, and optical technologies.

The act describes several new NIST programs based on this cooperative program theme, including a series of "Regional Centers for the Transfer of Manufacturing Technology" that will be affiliated with non-profit institutions or organizations: a program to provide assistance and make federal technology available to state and local technology programs and technology extension services; and an "Advanced Technology Program" to encourage the commercialization of new high-technology products.

While the legislation adds major new programs, it also reinforces the agency's role as the nation's measurement and standards research laboratory. NIST will continue to serve as the nation's central laboratory for developing and disseminating measurement standards and scientific data for science, engineering, manufacturing, commerce, industry and public safety.

Exactly how the new programs and activities will be accomplished is still under discussion. A new organization plan must be drawn up and submitted to the Congress for approval.

In answer to, "What's in a Name?," only time will tell. Certainly the changes go much deeper than just the new name noted by most outsiders. In addition to the recent appointment of a new NIST Director, John Lyons, we are currently awaiting the announcement of a major reorganization which will eliminate the Center for Analytical Chemistry as an organizational unit (to ***be replaced by an all-encompassing Chemical Sciences and Technology Laboratory).*** Probably the biggest concern among the staff is a feat that NIST will be politicized under this new role. Most of us, however, remain optimistic and, while we miss the "good old days" of NBS, hope that, as we approach our hundredth anniversary, the future will bring continued scientific accomplishments.

New Element Discovered

(Author Unknown)

The heaviest element known to science was recently discovered by University physicists. The element, tentatively named Administratium (AD), has no protons or electrons, which means that its atomic number is 0. However, it does have 1 neutron, 125 assistants to the neutron, 75 vice-neutrons, and 11 assistants to the vice-neutrons. This gives it an atomic mass number of 312. The 312 particles are held together in the nucleus by a force that involves the continuous exchanges of meson-like particles called memos.

Since it has no electrons, it is inert. However, it can be detected chemically because it seems to impede every reaction in which it is present. According to one of the discoverers of the element, a small amount of Administratium made one reaction that normally takes a second take over four days.

Administratium has a half-life of approximately 6 months, at which time it does not actually decay. Instead, it undergoes a reorganization in which assistants to the neutron, vice- neutrons, and assistants to the vice-neutron exchange place. Some studies have indicated that the atomic mass number actually increases after each reorganization. Research at other laboratories seems to indicate the Administratium might occur naturally in the atmosphere. According to one scientist, Administratium is most likely to be found on college campuses, in large corporations and at government centers, near the best-appointed and best- maintained building.

Positions Available

Postdoctoral Positions (2)

To study electronic, electrochemical, and optical properties of ensembles of nanosized metallic and polymeric particles and to develop applications of such ensembles in, e.g., sensors, and photoelectrochemical devices. Available after June 1, 1990. Send vitae to:

Dr. C. R. Martin
Department of Chemistry
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO 80523.

Electrochemist

A biotech company in the Midwest is seeking an electrochemist for the development of diagnostic devices. The applicant should have theoretical knowledge and practical experience in electrochemistry, including the design and construction of amperomentic electrodes. Experience with electrochemical detection of enzymatically generated products and knowledge of immunochemistry is required. A Ph.D. degree with emphasis in relevant areas is necessary. Please send applications to:

Dr. W. Schramm
BioQuant, Inc.
1919 Green Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Sabbatical Position Desired

Dr. K.S.V. Santhanam, a Professor at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research in Bombay, is looking for a sabbatical position in the U.S. beginning around July or August of this year. He has worked as a visiting scientist at several locations in the U.S. and Canada. His areas of experience include coulometry, electrochemiluminescence, electrobioluminescence, photoelectrochemistry, and conducting polymers. If interested, his address is:

Chemical Physics Group
Tata Institute of Fundamental Research
Colaba, Bombay 400 005
Telephone: 495 2311.

He was a postdoc with Al Bard, and Al can provide you with further information if necessary.

32nd Rocky Mountain Conference

Symposium on Electrochemistry

Organized by Larry L. Jackson, Chairman and Joseph H. Christie, Co-Chairman

Monday Morning, July 30

Electrochemical Applications Of Soluble Polyelectrolytes. **S. James Schmittle, Ronald B. Sprinkle, and C. Michael Elliot, Colorado State University.**

Spatially-resolved Electrochemical Detection For High Performance Liquid Chromatography At Semiconducting Titanium Dioxide Wires. **Garrett N. Brown, John W. Birks, and Carl A. Koval, University of Colorado.**

Pulsed Electrochemical Detection In Liquid Chromatography. **William R. LaCourse and Dennis C. Johnson, Iowa State University.**

The Electrochemical Detection Of Penicillin Compounds Following Their Separation By Hplc. **Lisa M. Koprowski and Lawrence E. Welch, Knox College.**

Functional Group Selectivity In Pulsed Electrochemical Detection. **William R. LaCourse and Dennis C. Johnson, Iowa State University.**

Keynote Speaker: Charles R. Martin

Enhancing Conductivities In Electronically Conductive Polymers. **Charles R. Martin, Colorado State University.**

Monday Afternoon, July 30

Investigation Of Electron Transfer Kinetics At N-type Metal Dichalcogenide Semiconductor/solution Interfaces Using A Microelectrochemical Cell. **Jason N. Howard and Carl A. Koval, University of Colorado.**

Detection Of Hot Electrons At A P-type Indium Phosphide Photoelectrochemical Cell Utilizing Rotating **Ring** *Disk Electrode Voltammetry.* **Robert Torres and Carl A. Koval, University of Colorado.**

Fabrication And Electrochemistry Of Microhole Array Electrodes. **Charles J. Brumlik and Charles R. Martin, Colorado State University.**

Electrochemical Synthesis Of Ultrathin Film Composite Membranes. **Chao Liu, Mark W. Espenscheid, W-J. Chen, and Charles R. Martin, Colorado State University.**

The Use Of Electropolymerized Metalloporphyrin Films For The Separation Of Nitrogen Heterocycles From Hydrocarbon Phases Via Electrochemical/y Modulated Complexation. **Douglas E. Wedman and Carl A. Koval, University of Colorado.**

Effects Of Hydroxide On The Electrochemistry Of Polypyrrole. **Leon S. Van Dyke and Charles R. Martin, Colorado State University.**

Infrared And Uv-visible Studies Of **The** *Trapped Charge Within Electropolymerized Tris(vinylbipyridine)ruthenium(ii).* *Scott C.* **Paulson and C. Michael Elliot, Colorado State University.**

Tuesday Morning, July 31

Oxygen Reduction At The Perfluorosulfonate Ionomer Film- Microelectrode Interface: transport And Kinetics. **Arvind Parthasarathy and Charles R. Martin, Colorado State University.**

Oxygen *Reduction Kinetic Currents At Perfluorosulfonate Ionomer Film-coated Platinum Electrodes: results Pertaining To Hydrogen-oxygen Phosphoric Acid Fuel Cells.* **Del R. Lawson and Charles R. Martin, Colorado State University.**

Battery Studies In Neutral Room Temperature Chloroaluminate Molten Salts. **Jeffrey Boon, John Sanders, Larry Vaughn and John S. Wilkes, USAF Academy.**

High Cycle Life Rechargeable Aluminum Batteries. **V. R. Koch and C. Nanjundiah, Covalent Associates, Inc.**

Potentiometry Of Polar Dissolved Organics Using The Nickel Electrode. **Ben S. Hui and Calvin 0. Huber, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.**

A Comparison Of Hydrogen Electrode And Ph Glass Electrode For Ph Measurement. **Naila Ashraf and K. L.** *Cheng,* **University of Missouri - Kansas City.**

Applications Of Electrochemistry To The Analysis Of Geologic Materials. **Larry L. Jackson and Joseph H. Christie, U.S. Geological Survey.**

July 29 - August 2, 1990
Radisson Hotel
Denver, Colorado

For information:

Carol Gies
2155 W. 144th
Broomfield, CO 80020

23rd Great Lakes Regional Meeting

Organized by
Robin D. Rogers
and
Jon W. Carnahan

May 30-June 1
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, Illinois
Hosted by
The ACS Rock River Section

For information:
Robin D. Rogers
General Meeting Chairman
(815) 753-6886

Jon W. Carnahan
Program Chairman
(815) 753-6879

Department of Chemistry
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, Illinois 60115.

Wednesday Afternoon

Symposium on Surface Studies of Electrode Materials
P. Vanysek, Organizer, *Presiding*

Characterization of CO Electrosorbed on Ordered Platinum and Rhodium Low-Index Single Crystal Electrodes by in-situ Infrared Spectroscopy. S.-C. Chang, M. J. **Weaver.**

Electrocatalysis of Anodic Oxygen-Transfer Reactions at Cl- Doped Lead Dioxide Electrodes in Sulfuric Acid Media. Y.-L. Hslao, D. C. Johnson.

Vibrational Spectroelectrochemical Studies of High-Nuclearity Platinum Carbonyl Clusters. **J.** D. Roth, G. J. Lewis, M. J. Weaver, L. F. Dahl.

Digital Simulation as a Tool for the Analysis of Cyclic Voltammograms Acquired at Microdisk Electrodes. L. Safford, P. Santagelo, M. J. Weaver.

In-situ Surface Raman Spectroscopy of Hydrous Iridium Oxide Electrodes. Characterization of Surface Redox Sites. C. S. Johnson, R. L. Blackbourn, J. T. Hupp.

Thursday Morning & Afternoon

Symposium on Electrochemistry at Interfaces and Surfaces
P. Vanysek, Organizer, *Presiding*

Electron Transfer into Self-Assembling Monolayers on Au Electrodes. K. A. Bunding Lee.

Mass-Transfer inhibition by Ultrathin *Polyelectrolyte Films on Solid Electrodes. S.* E. Creager, M. A. Fox.

Analytical Applications of Electrocatalytic Modified Electrodes. R. P. Baldwin, X. Qi, P. Luo.

Temperature Effects in Electrode Kinetics: the Ferrous/Ferric Redox Reaction. N. C. Hung, Z. Nagy, R. M. Yonco.

Membrane Potentials across Mullite in Molten Bromides. M. L. Orfield.

Electrochemistry of 2[4Fe-4S] Ferrodoxins: **Native** *and Synthetic.* E. T. Smith, B. A. Feinberg, J. M. Tomich, J. H. Richards.

Potentiometric Stripping Analysis for Dilute Chlorine Species. Y. Xie, C. 0. Huber.

Relationship between Chemical Structure and Electrode Selectivity for Anion Selective Membrane Electrodes Based on Disubstituted Organotins. M. A. Arnold.

Electrocatalytic Oxidation at Chemically Modified Lead Dioxide Electrodes. D. C. Johnson, H. Chang, L. A. Larew, B. Weis, Y.-L. Hslao, J. Feng, J. E. Vitt, S. J. Gordon.

T. M. Cotton, *Presiding*

Scanning Tunneling Microscopy of Adsorbates on Metal Surfaces: Oxygen and Iodine on Rh(100). R. M. Thiesen, B. C. Schardt.

Silver Underpotential Deposition on Platinum(III). Examination with Scanning Tunneling Microscopy. C. M. Vitus, B. C. Schardt.

In-situ STM Imaging of Underpotential Deposition of Copper on Iodine-Pretreated Platinum(III). S.-L. Yau, B. C. Schardt.

Direct Imaging of Electrode Surface Atomic Structure by Angular Distribution Auger Microscopy. D. G. Frank, T. Golden, F. Lu, A. T. Hubbard.

Spectroscopic and Electrochemical Studies of Organized Assemblies on Electrode Surfaces. T. M. Cotton, J.-H. Kim.

Surface Intervalence-Enhanced Raman Scattering. Mode-by-Mode Assessments of Franck-Condon Barriers to Interfacial Charge Transfer. R. L. Blackbourn, C. S. Johnson, J. T. Hupp.

Phase-Measurement Interferometric Microscopy of Thin Polymer Films: a Simultaneous Analysis of Refractive Index Thickness **and** *Topography. C* P. Smith, M. V. Tirrell, H. S. White.

Mass Transfer Correlation for Laminar Flow over a Cylindrical Microelectrode. D. J. Earl, H. Kragt, C. W. Macosko, H. S. White.

STM of Adsorbed Organometallic Complexes. S. Snyder, H. White.

The **complete program can be found in *C&EN*, April 2, 1990, pp. 27-33.**

As a service to our members, SEAC Communications will publish brief new product announcements from electrochemical instrument manufacturers. This *is not to be* construed *as a* recommendation or endorsement *of the products by SEAC,* nor *does it imply that the materials or equipment are necessarily the best available for the purpose. The Editor also reserves the right to accept or reject such announcements based on his assessment as to the product's value to the newsletter audience.*

Voltammetric Microelectrodes

Cypress Systems, Inc. announces the introduction of its new microelectrodes for voltammetry. Available in glassy carbon, gold, and platinum, these 10 μm disk electrodes are housed in a Z-mm o.d. x 5-cm glass tube, making them ideal for work with limited samples. Microelectrodes offer other advantages for electroanalytical studies, too. These include enhanced mass transport of electroactive species with resulting higher current sensitivity, lower iR errors, and much smaller RC time constants due to double-layer charging.

Polishing Kit for Solid Electrodes

Cypress Systems, Inc. announces the introduction of its new electrode polishing kit. Solid electrodes used in voltammetry require occasional polishing to remove adsorbed reaction products and to restore the mirror-like finish to the electrode surface. The kit provides all the materials needed to do the job properly -- diamond (1 and 0.25 pm) and alumina (0.05 pm) polishing compounds, polishing pads, glass plate, and instructions, all contained in a reusable storage box.

For further information, contact

Dr. Robert F. Broman
Cypress Systems, Inc.
PO Box 3931
Lawrence, Kansas 66046
(913) 842-2511.

Non-aqueous Reference Electrodes

For researchers doing electrochemistry in non-aqueous medium, BAS is now offering a kit to make a Ag/Ag^+ reference electrode. The kit contains all the components needed including $AgNO_3$ salt. Just add solvent and it is ready to use.

MF-2062 Non-aqueous Reference Electrode Kit

BAS also offers non-aqueous electrolyte salts: Tetraethylammonium perchlorate (TEAP) and Tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate (TBAHFP). They are sold in 50 gm bottles.

CF-2001 TEAP (50 gm)

CF-2000 TBAHFP (50gm)

By popular demand BAS has reincarnated the Vycor tipped Ag/AgCl aqueous reference electrode. The old RE-1 is now the RE-5 but it has the same qualities: rugged, reliable and low cost.

MF 2063 RE-5 Ag/AgCl Reference Electrode

Voltammetry Electrode Discount for SEAC members

BAS is offering SEAC members a 20% discount our most popular voltammetry electrodes when purchased in quantities of three (3) or more on the same purchase order. This applies to all standard materials; Glassy Carbon (MF2012), Platinum (MF2013), Gold (MF2014), Silver (MF2011), Nickel (MF2016) and Carbon Paste (MF2010). Remember, these are stock items so they are usually shipped within 48 hours.

100 Micrometer Diameter Platinum Voltammetry Electrode

Now available from BAS is a 100 μM diameter Platinum microelectrode for use when a conventional (millimeter dimensions) electrode is too large (iR drop or charging current problems) or when a ca. 10 micrometer diameter is too small (e.g. non steady state or nonlinear diffusion conditions).

MF-2150 μPTE 100μM diameter Platinum Voltammetric Microelectrode

Micro Carbon Voltammetry Electrode

BAS is expanding the 10 μM diameter microelectrode line to include a carbon electrode. The new carbon electrode is made with the same high quality as our 10 diameter μPTE and μAUE.

MF2007 μCE 10 μM diameter Carbon Voltammetric Microelectrode

New Cell Stand

BAS is introducing a new cell stand package to replace the existing models C-1A and C-1B. The new model, C-2, is still a complete cell package that contains not only glassy carbon and platinum vdtammetry electrodes, Ag/AgCl reference electrodes, polishing kit, cell vials...everything needed to get started doing electrochemistry, but it also includes a Faraday cage that has dual gas purging lines and magnetic stirring capabilities.

EF1080 C-2 Cell Stand Package

New BAS Electrochemistry Catalog

A catalog containing all BAS Electrochemistry Products is now available. Call or write for your FREE copy.

For more information:
BAS, Electrochemistry Products
2701 Kent Avenue
West Lafayette, IN 47906
(317)463-4527
or FAX (317)497-l 102.

Far East Report

Bill Heineman and I just completed a three-week electroanalytical excursion through Tokyo, Singapore, Melbourne, Brisbane, and Sydney. Bill has been on sabbatical in BOM with Eberhard Steckhan. Thus he took a sabbatical from a sabbatical to tour the Pacific. We had a good visit to the Tokyo Institute of Technology and BAS Japan and received our fill of biosensors, FET-based sensors, microelectrodes, and sushi. Singapore was the site of the Biosensors Conference sponsored by Elsevier. I could not believe it, but 270 showed up for this excellent meeting at the Mandarin Hotel. The largest percentage of attendees seemed to be from the Far East and Europe. Many prominent U.S. biosensor people were not there, perhaps due to the recent Gordon Conference on the same subject. At times there seem to be more meetings on biosensors than there are researchers in this field (but the definition of it keeps getting broader and broader). As usual, there was a strong emphasis on glucose at the Singapore meeting including some interesting recent developments using micron-sized devices that seemed to be working quite well, but are not yet rugged enough for clinical use. For my taste, the progress has been very impressive. It appears that there will be another meeting 1992 to follow-up on this one.

Upon returning from the Pacific I received Joe Wang's special issue of Electroanalysis on MICROELECTRODES, which were obviously a key part of the Singapore meeting. Joe is to be congratulated on this issue. It contains a number of excellent contributions. I never anticipated that a journal such as Electroanalysis could prosper, yet it appears to be off to an excellent start. This probably reflects on the facts that (1) the Journal of Electroanalytical Chemistry takes the broadest (too broad a) view of the word "analysis," and (2) Analytical Chemistry scares innovative contributions away on occasion when reviewers confuse the "search for technical rigor" with "nit-picking" (I agree that we all disagree where this line should be drawn). In any event, sustaining quality, issue after issue, is a lot harder than an initial year or two of success.

In all seriousness, I'm writing this because Dick Durst requires me to supply some filler. He wants me to contribute some outrageous opinion in order to stimulate more "Letters to the Editor." On the other hand, I refuse to do so in order to protect the office of SEAC Past-President. It is, however, my feeling that the Federal budget for research grants is more than adequate and that we need to concentrate our attention on spending the money more shrewdly, focusing on truly productive investigators doing leading edge work at top schools. Simultaneously, quality teaching should be recognized as scholarly activity. We now fund a lot of work of marginal importance and we under-recognize the teaching profession. I believe that the current belt tightening will lead to a positive change in both respects.

Pete Kissinger
Jet-Lagged, Sushied, and Aussied