SEAC*communications*

Volume 15, Number 3, October 1999

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President's Message

Changing of the (El Prez) Guard

This is not the first time that I have followed Mark Wightman. It has usually been a good idea. I know that I speak for all the members of the Society in thanking Mark for a job well done. I look forward to working with all of the members of the Society to celebrate electroanalytical chemistry.

Speaking of celebrations, please join us for ESEAC 2000. Our colleagues in Europe are planning a great meeting that will allow us to review the last 30 years or so of advances in electroanalytical chemistry while at the same time we get a peek at new developments in the field. Abstracts are due on 15 January 2000, but you know how things go, so plan on getting yours in early. You can get information on the meeting at the ESEAC 2000 SEAC website [http://www-upb.ipc.kfa-juelich.de/eseac2000.htm], most conveniently found through the SEAC homepage link to it.

It has been my great good fortune this past summer to be the host laboratory for an outstanding undergraduate student. Conversations with her have led to some pondering about science, society and how we justify ourselves. As a student in the Honors program at the University of Pittsburgh, Nancy (not her real name) has watched with envy as the humanists in the Honors program gather to discuss books of all sorts in informal book clubs. She has also noted with dismay that there is remarkable pressure on the science majors in the Honors Program to broaden themselves through intellectual development in the Humanities, but very little if any encouragement for the Humanists to delve into physics, chemistry, neuroscience, etc. She has decided to start her own "book club" for discussion of books by scientists published for the layman. In this way, she can encourage fellow Science majors and Humanists alike to take a self-guided tour through the eyes of some of the great scientific minds. On looking into possible books for this exercise, she was struck by the paucity of books by chemists. There are countless (billions and billions of...) books on the mysteries of physics—the universe, its beginning, its end, quarks and other weird little bitty things of strings. There are bushels of biobooks—medical discoveries, DNA, life, sociology and behavior, linguistics. It does not require much analysis to discover that people are fascinated by the great questions—"Why are we here?"; "Where did the universe begin?"; "What created DNA and the incredible replicating molecular machinery?"

And then there is chemistry—the science of stuff. It answers questions like "Why is concrete hard"; "How can I get aluminum from this dirt?"; "How could I prevent the spoiling of this food?" Pretty prosaic. Is it any wonder that folks don't wonder about chemistry, that publishers don't cultivate bridge building between the great minds of chemistry and the general public?

Our little secret, of course, is that, prosaic as it is, the vastness and ubiquity of chemistry's influence on our daily lives is what makes it profound. The utility of chemistry's fruits belies its strong theoretical and intellectual foundation. The fact that chemistry and chemicals are everywhere around us at all times makes it unremarkable, familiar, commonplace. For most people, it is simply not very important.

As we go to press, the Federal Government is playing with our future. Funding for research is imperiled once again. It reminds us that we should not to take our ability to do research for granted. We must promote the importance of our field routinely and with vigor.

Chemistry can be justified on the basis of the practicality of the field, but we must be careful not to restrict ourselves to this argument. In order to remain strong, to grow and to make new discoveries, the field of chemistry has to maintain its culture of inquiry. We cannot do that with objective-oriented funding. We need the freedom to inquire. While productivity is an important component of our culture, we also need the freedom to encourage students to take the time to explore physical phenomena at a detailed level in order that they might become independent thinkers, scholars and researchers.

While the budget discussion is going on, with Science losing ground, we have the appalling decision in Kansas that supports creationism, or at least does not support the scientific development of the ideas of evolution. We, like my insightful and energetic student-colleague Nancy, must be creative in finding ways to educate society broadly. We should support all activities that lead to a more critical and independent people.

Steve Weber

Editorial

All Hail **Steve Weber**, SEAC's new President! Fond adieux to **Mark Wightman** in his guise as El Prez, but not to Mark and his continuing commitment and contributions to SEAC.

SEAC seems to be happily, but silently surfing, as minimal murmurs have risen from members annoyed at web-only newsletters. Gratifyingly, SEAC Surfers continue to comment on the quality and usefulness of SEAC's website—some even bothering to do so in writing. Again heaps of praise to **Sam Kounaves**, SEAC's Webmeister, who has invested the time and care to make http://seac.tufts.edu your one-stop electrochemical shopping experience. But, remember: an accurate listing of the members' electronic addresses is vital to SEAC's future—please keep either myself [rolison@nrl.navy.mil] or **Andy Ewing** [age@psu.edu], the SEAC Secretary, informed of any changes to your various addresses.

To echo Steve's call to open the joys and wonders of chemical science beyond we-the-practitioners, what books have SEAC members found to be of sufficient general interest to introduce to one's high school or undergraduate researchers (or a friend or family member)? My research group frequently blends undergraduate researchers with postdoctoral associates for a dialogue on science and a life in science that enriches all participants. Some recent books that bring chemistry to readers outside of chemistry and that have found favor with my undergraduate researchers and postdocs alike have included:

- *On the Surface of Things*—Felice Frankel and George Whitesides
- *Chemistry: Today and Tomorrow*—Ronald Breslow
- *The Same and Not the Same*—Roald Hoffmann
- *Stuff: The Materials the World is Made Of*—Ivan Amato
- *Glass*—William Ellis
- *The Best of Annals of Improbable Research*—Edited by Marc Abrahams

What are your candidates for good books to give to the curious non-science-degree-bearing person?? (with the caveat that, as we all know, all five-year olds *are* natural scientists!) Tell me. Tell Steve. Tell your friends and students.

Debra Rolison

PS: and to continue the literary theme, enjoy the written stylings of several SEAC members in the pages to follow!

SEAC and the World—

A report on the state of electrons in Japan from Yoshio Umezawa, SEAC Regional Editor

Debra encouraged me to write about electrochemistry and Japan to settle a longstanding debt incurred when Dick Durst assigned me some time ago as a Regional Editor of *SEAC Communications*.

I will try to write a series of brief reports from Tokyo about electroanalytical chemistry and electrochemistry, its science and community in Japan. The sciences in this field are not much different here from those in the US. Chemical- and biosensors, batteries, and photoelectrochemistry may still be active fields to name a few. Also, interesting is that not only genuine electrochemists and electroanalytical chemists, but people in the fields of materials science, molecular recognition chemistry, biotechnology and even physical chemistry occasionally disclose good science using (and/or relevant) to electro(analytical)chemistry. For fundamental electrochemistry, various SPM techniques and supramolecular and SAM chemistries often bridge our discipline to other fields. Boundaries between specialists in our discipline and others thus seem much more diluted than they used to be.

This blending of disciplines is reflected in the way membership was distributed for two recent three-year research projects for some priority areas, "Organic Electrochemistry" and "Electrochemistry of Ordered Interfaces" organized by Tetsuo Osa and Kohei Uosaki, respectively; "non-electrochemist" members of these projects were nearly two-thirds. This type of group-based project is one of the unique grants available from Monbusho (Ministry of Education, Science and Culture); roughly fifty projects of this kind with members of around fifty each are currently running in all disciplines in science and literature.

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Kudos to SEAC members!!

—**Stanley Bruckenstein**, SEAC's 8th recipient of the Charles N. Reilley Award (and the A. Conger Goodyear Professor of Chemistry at the University of Buffalo, SUNY) has been named a Fellow of the Electrochemical Society for his "…creative experimental and theoretical approaches to the study of electrochemical processes using rotating electrodes, electrochemical mass spectroscopy and the electrochemical quartz crystal microbalance." He will be formally recognized on 20 October 1999 at the ECS meeting in Honolulu. Joining Stanley in the 1999 Class of ECS Fellows are Eric Brooman, Kathryn Bullock, Shimshon Gottesfeld, Yue Kuo, Dieter Landolt, Jerzy Ruzyllo, N. Sato, Ralph White, and Bill Yen.

—SEAC Student members (and their affiliated research mentors, SEAC stalwarts of note) have swept the 1999 ECS Summer Fellowships. **Wendy Baker**, Ph.D.-bound with Dick Crooks at Texas A&M, is the recipient of the Colin Garfield Fink Summer Research fellowship. **Alan Templeton,** who is working on his Ph.D. at the University of North Carolina with Royce Murray, was awarded the Edward G. Weston Summer Research fellowship. And **Ajith Wijayawardhana** received the Joseph W. Richard's Summer Research fellowship; he is researching sensors with Bill Heineman and Brian Halsall for his Ph.D. from the University of Cincinnati.

—**Andy Ewing**, Penn State's recently named first J. Lloyd Huck Chair of Natural Sciences, has received a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship for 1999-2000 to work with scientists at Goteborg University in Sweden to monitor changes in cell membranes following exocytocis.

—**Bill Heineman**, SEAC's 12th recipient of the Reilley Award, former SEAC President, and Distinguished Research Professor of Chemistry at the University of Cincinnati was been awarded the 1999 Torbern Bergmann Medal by the Swedish Chemical Society in honor of his pioneering contributions to electroanalytical and bioanalytical chemistry.

SEAC on the Move!

—**Chuck Martin** has indeed moved from the foothills of the Rockies (and Colorado State University) to assume his new position as Professor of Chemistry at the University of Florida in Gainesville (and he **loves** the weather, says he, even in August, even through the hurricanes). As promised, we can update SEAC on Chuck's new electronic particulars:

crmartin@chem.ufl.edu

—**Michael Freund** has recently moved from Lehigh to Caltech to succeed Seth Marder (who recently moved to the University of Arizona) as Director of the Molecular Materials Research Center in the Beckman Institute. Mike may have spent his summer vacation getting his new labs set up, but expects to be ready for the GRC (and WETS party) in 2000. Mike can be reached at:

Beckman Institute, Mail Code 139-74
California Institute of Technology
Pasadena, CA 91125
—and—
msf@its.caltech.edu

—**Stephanie Brock**, who has been known to stuff cations and electrons into materials, has decamped from her postdoc with Steve Suib at UConn, to join the tenure-track at the Department of Chemistry at Wayne State University. She can be reached at:

sbrock@chem.wayne.edu

In the category of staying put, but moving:

—**Dan Buttry** has accepted Head of the Department of Chemistry at the University of Wyoming, Laramie.

—**Mike Elliott** has accepted Chair of the Department of Chemistry at Colorado State University, Fort Collins.

—**Andy Ewing**, J. Lloyd Huck Chair in Natural Sciences, has accepted Head of the Department of Chemistry at the Pennsylvania State University at University Park.

Send your condolences (and chocolate) to:

buttry@uwyo.edu
elliott@lamar.colostate.edu
age@psu.edu

—**Jeremy Pietron** (Ph.D., December 1998, University of North Carolina) has bid adieu to Royce Murray and his group to join Debra Rolison's "Aerogels 'R' Us" group at the Naval Research Laboratory as an NRC Post-doctoral Fellow. He can be reached at:

jpietron@ccf.nrl.navy.mil

…but that's the dry stick-in-the-throat announcement…in Jeremy's words:

Debra—This was the best I could come up with in one sitting (sigh). It's an ugly past, but mine alone...

PROFILE: Jeremy Pietron

AGE: Unknown

EDUCATION: Virtually none.

HISTORY: The boy is a functional illiterate who was found selling tickets to see the contortionist in a circus in the former East Germany by the enterprising Deb Rolison in her brief stint as an CIA operative in the mid-1980s. She was impressed by the youth's ability to go on seemingly endlessly about phenomena that were tasteless and in many cases untrue.

He indicated to her in a series of grunts, growls and guttural moans that comprised the local German dialect that he desperately wanted to defect and would she like to buy a ticket with hard currency? Moved with disgust, she ignored him and continued along the thoroughfare. This would not be the last time she would encounter him.

Eventually the DDRAP caught up with young Pietron and he was placed in a school for wayward youths. Hardened by a mean diet and perpetual penitential rites that youths deemed unfaithful to the state were forced to endure, he was finally released in 1989 and sent to work in an auto factory where he learned the ingenious workings of the two-cycle engine. This time in the worker's paradise was short-lived, however, as reunification brought mass unemployment, civil anxiety and the spread of unspeakably awful Teutonic interpretations of western pop music to the east. It was more than the young soul could bear. Cross-dressing as he had learned well to do as a youth in the circus, he seduced the drummer of The Scorpions after the Wall concert, organized by Roger Waters, in Berlin in 1990. Riding along back to the states, he dreamed of better things. Little was he to know what hard days he would meet.

After discreetly escaping the clutches of his new lover in New York, he headed south as he had always wanted to see Florida, and had heard about opportunities to work in agriculture there. As he hitchhiked his way down I-95 (still in drag, as it is far easier to get rides that way) he decided to stop tempting fate and stopped his travels in North Carolina, where he was able to get honest but difficult work on the hog farms. The hot days laboring in the sun were a bit much for the Eastern European lad, and soon he found himself looking for a way out. In due time, he was able to make the right connections to get a forged US birth certificate, a Social Security number, and reasonable transcripts from Pennsylvania State University. He was on his way.

After five years—and then some—of toil under Professor Royce Murray at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the Continental lad was given his leave and his degree and told to find work in a respectable laboratory. Working the channels he knew, he was delighted by Nature's frequent nods to a nearly literary meaning of Fate, as he discovered that the CIA operative that he had so longed to impress some years ago in a backwater of a town in the Eastern Bloc was the supervisor of a respectable lab. Aged and wizened, he was able to approach Dr. Rolison now with something to offer. Still unimpressed but moved by some bizarre emotion that would be most closely described as revolted pity, she gave him work, allowing him to clean glassware and to fetch newspapers and coffee for her more capable postdocs. Which brings us to the present…

…and moving right along…Last seen in a paroxysm of laughter in response to a drive-by insult [see *SEAC Communications*, **1998**, *14*(1)], Joe Cool (of Snoopy/Peanuts fame)—*a.k.a*. **Joe Hupp**, Professor of Chemistry at Northwestern University—is again deeply amused by driving events, as shown below. As the camera shutter closed, Joe was overheard to say something to the effect of "…you have to understand, this is the dream of every ten-year-old boy."

—Go, Joe!—

SEAC Photo *Flash* — http://seac.tufts.edu/awards.html

1999 SEAC AWARD WINNERS CAPTURED IN ELECTRONIC PERPETUITY!

—Official Photos of the Pittsburgh Conference—

Janet Osteryoung, 1999 Recipient of the C.N. Reilley Award and Head of the Chemistry Division of the National Science Foundation and Professor of Chemistry at North Carolina State University, accepts her award from SEAC President, **Mark Wightman**.

Dan Feldheim (North Carolina State University), the 1999 Recipient of SEAC's Young Investigator Award, accepts his award citation from SEAC President, **Mark Wightman**.

—Pittcon®'2000, New Orleans, 12-17 March 2000: Please join us to witness El Prez Steve Weber similarly honoring Henry White, our C.N. Reilley Awardee for 2000, and Merlin Bruening, our Y2K Young Investigator!—

Award Nominations Still Solicited for SEAC's Y2K+1 Awardees!

SEAC is responsible for the establishment and the administration of the Charles N. Reilley Memorial Award and the SEAC Young Investigator Award. Sponsored by Bioanalytical Systems, Inc. and administered entirely by SEAC, the Reilley Award recognizes an active researcher who has made a major contribution to the theory, instrumentation, or applications of electroanalysis. The Young Investigator Award, sponsored by Cypress Systems, recognizes accomplishments by a researcher who is within the first seven years of his or her career. In conjunction with the presentation of these awards, SEAC arranges an Award Symposium and an informal reception in honor of the Awardees at Pittcon. In this way, SEAC serves as the focal point for analytical chemists who wish to exchange ideas about electroanalytical chemistry at the conference. All nomination materials for the Reilley or Young Investigator Awards will be retained by SEAC. Once nominated, an individual will be considered for three years without being renominated. The submission of any additional supporting information or a renomination is welcome at any time, but the decision on the 2001 Awards will be based upon the material that is available to the Award Committee by 1 March 2000.

—Charles N. Reilley Award—

Nominations for the Y2k+1 (2001) Reilley Award should include a letter of nomination describing the individual's significant contributions to electroanalytical chemistry, at least two seconding letters of support, and a curriculum vitae for the individual.

—Young Investigator Award—

For the 2001 SEAC Young Investigator Award, nominees must be within seven years of obtaining their Ph.D. or other terminal degree at the time of nomination. Candidates may be nominated by any member of SEAC. Nominations should include a letter describing the individual's promise in the area of electroanalytical chemistry, at least one seconding letter of support, and a curriculum vitae for the individual.

Requests for further information or submissions of nominations for all awards should be directed to:

Professor RICHARD M. CROOKS
SEAC Awards Committee
Department of Chemistry
Texas A&M University
P.O. Box 30012
College Station, TX 77842-3012

Tel: 409-845-5629
FAX: 409-845-1399
E-mail: crooks@tamu.edu

RETURN OF A CONTINUING SEAC SAGA: *The Further Adventures of Horseshoe Henry*

—Brought to you at great personal risk by *SEAC Communications*' ad-hoc reporter, **Keith Stevenson** (postdoctorally toiling in the Hupp Universe at Northwestern University)—

Once again at Debra's request, I have been asked to relay to you another account of an adventure with **Henry White**. Having survived last episode's looming threat of electrocution by lightning [see *SEAC Communications*, **1997**, *13*(4)], we continue with Henry's dance of creative orienteering in the neighboring vistas of the Wasatch mountains. I am able to write about these escapades simply because I have not, as yet, been replaced as the CARP (commissioned advisor rescue person) of his research group, even though I have long since graduated. This of course begs the question, that perhaps no other person is naive enough to accept this responsibility knowing full well the legend of Horseshoe. An accompanying CARP is essential to ensure the safety of the advisor, and to prevent career threatening mishaps and fatal accidents. Those of you who have tagged along with Henry on one of his ambitious ventures know that misfortune is highly probable and that the presence of the CARP is vital.

This particular adventure was to camp and fish a high alpine lake (~10,000 ft elevation) situated in the Manti-La Sal National Forest about 120 miles south of Salt Lake City. To keep it simple and low-impact, we figured it best to drive to our chosen location. However, as with any of these adventures, they never turn out to be an easy undertaking. What I realize now is that all of these trips involve several of the same elements. There is always an incident involving: *(1)* the misoperation or malfunction of a vehicle; *(2)* a dosing of water (in some form) and a coating with mud; *(3)* the breaking and/or misplacement of important items (*e.g.*, food and fishing poles); *(4)* the over-consumption of beverages (especially, water); and *(5)* a discussion about a map, or lack thereof, and our whereabouts.

It is this last item that I want to address in the telling of this particular adventure, because it was the dominant aspect of our trip. What was unbeknownst to everyone at the time was just how remote, rugged and impassable the access road was that lead to our destination. In the guide book, the road is described as "a scenic backroad, nearly all of which is unpaved, that follows the crest of the Wasatch Plateau for about 100 miles." This sounded pretty enticing; however, failing to read further, we missed an important warning about the nature of the road **leading to** the top of this scenic plateau, which read: "access to this road may be too rough for low-clearance vehicles or even occasionally closed to all traffic. A snowbank often blocks the access road until middle or late July." (Note: the lack of reading the guidebook prior to the trip and the lack of planning an adequate route, are also essential elements of an HSW adventure.) Well, for us it was June, and Henry, worried that his Jeep would get dirty, decided to drive the low-clearance Honda Civic!

By now you should realize that the odds were significantly stacked against us. To be concise, we essentially drove around in the "deliverance-esque" mountains of Utah for 7 hours, never to reach the scenic plateau. Most of this 7 hours was not spent driving, rather, it was spent climbing in and out of the vehicle to continually push, pull, or slide it over, under, or around certain immovable objects such as deep rivers, large boulders, snowbanks, and quicksand-like mud pits. At the most dangerous moment, the CARP was called upon to back the car off the edge of a steep embankment to avoid an imminent rollover. Actually, I think Henry figured that if the car rolled, he could then blame me and catch less heat from Joyce, his wife, since it is really her car.

After writing about these endeavors, I have made an important conclusion that most of these adventures are doomed from the start solely because of one essential attribute. It is a trait not specific to Henry, but to all males, which is so detrimental (as most women will attest) that calamity is bound to occur. Why

men possess this trait and where it originated from is hard to comprehend. Essentially, all of these escapades go awry simply because the men involved in leading the way **fail to stop and ask for directions**. I'm not sure what subconscious process is operative that convinces us to erroneously, but automatically know, *a priori*, the correct route or what inhibits our ability to stop for directions when we most assuredly are lost! What I do know is that this attribute has existed for a long time, well before the invention of the automobile. Even the famous adventurer and Indian-fighter, Daniel Boone, was known to have said: "I can't say I was ever lost, but I was bewildered once for three days!" Finally, I leave you with a list of excuses that I have heard during some of these adventures as to why we got disorientated. I attribute them to Henry, but they are applicable to almost everyone.

Horseshoe Henry's Top Ten Excuses for Getting Lost

10. I was following you, but you hike too slowly!
9. The route was labeled wrong on the map.
8. I thought this was a path-independent route.
7. I guess the electromagnet in my pack threw off the compass.
6. Based on the calculations our flux should have been convergent.
5. There was moss all around that tree!
4. I was just following my wife's directions.
3. It's hard to tell which way is West with the setting sun shining in my eyes.
2. I was trying to test my survival skills.
1. Lost? I prefer to call it creative exploration!

Professor White (we know it s Henry because of the hat) demonstrates the familiar "where-are-we-now?" pose. Note the (unopened, unread) map in his hand!

—Henry: you da man! Keith: you da CARP!! … (over-consumption of *water*?!!??)—

✯✯OUR CONTINUING AND HIGHLY POPULAR SEAC FEATURE✯✯ — *Name That Electrochemical Nerd * !!*

The first official correct guess (as determined by directly contacting the above Electrochemical Nerd, *a.k.a*. **C. Michael Elliott**, Professor of Chemistry at Colorado State University) was made by Georgia Tech's **Larry Bottomley**, who won an autographed copy of one of the EN's latest reprints.

Thanks also to **Steve Sloop** (Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory), whose guess was **way** wrong, but **deeply** entertaining!

—Pictured below is this issue's entrant in "Name that Electrochemical Nerd". Again, the first correct guess (as determined by directly contacting the pictured-herein EN) will win an autographed copy of the EN's latest reprint.—

—…and please send in your candidates (and mystery photographs) for next issue's entrant in "Name That Electrochemical Nerd"!!—

* *a.k.a*. "Loser-Electrochemist!", see *SEAC Communications*, **1998**, *14*(1).

Plan your attendance accordingly!

GORDON RESEARCH CONFERENCE ON ELECTROCHEMISTRY
16-21 January 2000
Four Points Sheraton Hotel—Ventura Harbortown Resort
Ventura, California
http://www.grc.uri.edu/programs/2000/elecchem.htm

Chair—Neal Armstrong (*University of Arizona*) nra@u.arizona.edu
Vice-Chair—Debra Rolison (*Naval Research Laboratory*) rolison@nrl.navy.mil

Sunday, 17 January 1999, 7:30 p.m.—***Materials / New Technologies***
Discussion Leader—Art Janata (*Georgia Institute of Technology*)

Al Bard (*University of Texas, Austin*)—New scanning probe studies of interfaces

Mike Ward (*University of Minnesota*)—Electrochemical growth of epitaxial organic films on van der Waals substrates

Monday, 18 January 1999, 8:45 a.m.—***Materials / New Technologies***
Discussion Leader—Bruce Parkinson (*Colorado State University*)

Paul Bohn (*University of Illinois*)—Active control of surface transport with electrochemically generated chemical potential gradients

Joe Hupp (*Northwestern University*)—Designing new molecular materials for nanoscale sieving, sensing, and selective catalysis

Masimichi Fujihira (*Tokyo Institute of Technology*)—Study of electrode-solution interfaces by scanning probe microscopies

Monday, 17 January 1999, 4:00 p.m.—***Poster Session I***

Monday, 17 January 1999, 7:30 p.m.—***Materials***
Discussion Leader—Mark Thompson (*University of Southern California*)

Campbell Scott (*IBM Research, Almaden*)—Charge transport processes in organic light emitting diodes

Bruno Scrosati (*University of Rome*)—Composite ionic membranes: properties and applications

Tuesday, 18 January 1999, 8:45 a.m.—***Materials / Surfaces / Interfaces***
Discussion Leader—Dan Scherson (*Case Western Reserve University*)

Bruce Dunn (*University of California, Los Angeles*)—Electrochemistry of high surface area sol-gel materials

Phil Ross (*Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory*)—Surface reactions of lithium with battery electrolyte solvents

Manny Soriaga (*Texas A&M University*)—The (unique) interfacial chemistry of palladium electrodes

*Tuesday, 18 January 1999, 4:00 p.m.—**Poster Session I***

*Tuesday, 18 January 1999 7:15 p.m.—**New Investigators***
Discussion Leader—Werner Kuhr (*University of California, Riverside*)

Rosina Georgiadis (*Boston University*)—Measurements and modeling of biopolymer film formation and molecular interpenetration at solid/liquid interfaces

Merlin Bruening (*Michigan State University*)—Layered polyelectrolyte films as anti-corrosion coatings and semipermeable membranes

Sue Ferrere (*National Renewable Energy Laboratory*)—Dye sensitization with iron bipyridyl complexes

Sylvia Daunert (*University of Kentucky*)—Reporter enzymes in genetically engineered sensing systems

*Wednesday, 19 January 1999, 8:45 a.m.—**Bioelectrochemistry***
Discussion Leader—George Wilson (*University of Kansas*)

Dan Nocera (*Massachusetts Institute of Technology*)—Proton-coupled electron transfer

Mark Meyerhoff (*University of Michigan*)—Novel electrochemical sensors for biomedical measurements: from non-equilibrium potentiometry of polyions to *in vivo* devices based on nitric oxide release polymers

Andy Ewing (*Pennsylvania State University*)—Electrochemical modeling of neurotransmitter transport at single cells

*Wednesday, 19 January 1999, 4:00 p.m.—**Poster Session II***

*Wednesday, 19 January 1999, 7:30 p.m.—**Bioelectrochemistry***
Discussion Leader—Anne Plant (*NIST*)

Fred Hawkridge (*Virginia Commonwealth University*)—Electron-transfer reactions and coupled chemical reactions of Cytochrome oxidase in an electrode-supported bilayer membrane

Jim Rusling (*University of Connecticut*)—Bioelectrochemistry in thin films

*Thursday, 20 January 1999, 8:45 a.m.—**Bioelectrochemistry / New Technologies***
Discussion Leader—Greg Swain (*Utah State University*)

BUSINESS MEETING

Henry White (*University of Utah*)—Iontophoretic Transport in Biological and Synthetic Membranes

Marc Porter (*Iowa State University*)—Electrochemistry and Miniaturized Analytical Instrumentation

*Thursday, 20 January 1999, 4:00 p.m.—**Poster Session II***

*Thursday, 20 January 1999, 7:00 p.m.—**Open Session***
Discussion Leader— Debra Rolison, Vice-Chair (*Naval Research Laboratory*)

Plan your attendance accordingly!—Part Deux

BIOSENSORS 2000—6TH WORLD CONGRESS
24-26 May 2000
Hyatt Regency—San Diego, California
http://ww1.elsevier.nl:80/homepage/sag/biosconf/

The World Congress on Biosensors is the principal international meeting devoted to research, design, development and application of biosensors and bioelectronics. This interdisciplinary conference meets around the world every two years and serves professionals with an interest in the exploitation of biological materials in novel diagnostic and electronic devices.

Biosensors 2000 consists of daily plenary presentations followed by parallel sessions. In addition to invited lectures, selected oral contributions will be included in the plenary session. Parallel sessions comprising a refereed selection of submitted papers describing original work will be structured as 7 symposia on:
—Cell-based biosensors
—Enzyme-based biosensors
—Receptor-based biosensors
—Nucleic acid sensors
—Immunosensors
—Bioelectronics
—Commercial aspects

The opening keynote lecture for Biosensors 2000 will be given by Professor Garry Rechnitz, University of Hawaii, USA.

Abstracts of papers for oral or poster presentation should be submitted to the conference secretariat by **15 December 1999**. See the website (*How to submit an abstract*) for guidelines. The official language of the congress will be English. A discount on the registration fee will be offered to one author of each paper accepted for oral or poster presentation. In addition a discounted registration fee will be offered to students.

Abstracts should be sent:
By e-mail to: e.reed@elsevier.co.uk
By fax: to: + 44 (0)1865 843958

By mail to: Liz Reed, Biosensors 2000 Conference Secretariat
Elsevier Science
The Boulevard
Langford Lane, Kidlington
Oxford OX5 1GB, UK

Originals must be mailed to the above address after initial submission by fax or e-mail.

SEAC Items of Note—Noted in Passing

ELECTRONS (AND ELECTROCHEMISTS) BEWARE, BE-VERY-WARE !!

Israel Rubinstein, of the Weizmann Institute of Science [last seen in these pages enjoying the events affiliated with the "Bard Bash", *SEAC Communications*, **1999** *15*(1)], has recently attained a Black Belt in karate. Israel, shown in action (below, left), provides the following advice on conflict resolution to SEAC members:

A new way of resolving scientific disputes

—Israel, methinks you took the "bash" aspect a little too seriously…—

From the (E-)Mailbag

—The members rattle their electrons—

In message Thu, 10 Jun 1999 16:49:39 -0600, **Henry White** writes:

Debra—why aren't there any female "electrochemical nerds." I know they exist! *Henry*

Department of Chemistry
University of Utah
white@atlas.chem.utah.edu

—there are! they do!! Guilty!!! but no one can outdo you, our inaugural nerd!—

In message Fri, 11 Jun 1999 09:52:22 +0000 (GMT), **Dermot Diamond** writes:

Hello Debra—I looked up the site today and it really is an excellent resource. Congratulations!! I will be at the ACS meeting in New Orleans to attend the award ceremony for Joe Wang. Might see you there or in Boston in September for the SPIE sensor meeting. Best regards. *Dermot*

DCU-BEST Centre
Dublin City University
IRELAND
dermot.diamond@DCU.IE

—Thanks for the kind words, Dermot…and hosannas as always to SEAC's keeper of the Web: Sam Kounaves. Sorry I missed you (and your fiddle) and New Orleans and Joe's fête in August…—

In message Mon, 14 Jun 1999 09:08:15 +0200, **Hendrik Emons** writes:

Dear Debra—Thank you very much for including our first information about ESEAC2000 into the recent Newsletter. I could print it without additional question marks (Southern German printers may be different from ours!). I will keep you informed about the meeting and hope to see you in Bonn. Best regards. *Hendrik*

Environmental Specimen Bank
Institute of Applied Physical Chemistry
Research Center Juelich
GERMANY
h.emons@fz-juelich.de

In message Sat, 19 Jun 1999 17:34:45 -0500, **Johna Leddy** writes:

Dear Debra—thanks for the nice review of the symposium volume. I found fish freshness interesting, too. sushi. *Johna*

Department of Chemistry
Iowa State University
jleddy@blue.weeg.uiowa.edu

—sushi is *very* electroanalytical, Johna! I'm glad you liked the review...and thank you for suggesting that ECS get a review into SEAC Communications. Hope it helps sales. Thanks to Joan Fuller for the review and thanks (to you and Petr and Marc) for organizing the symposium in the first place—I had a good time—

—It bears repeating: all things faradaic—

In message Tue, 22 Sep 1998 13:35:04 -0400, Dave Curran writes:

Debra—Once again, the occasion of Faraday's birthday is with us.

Dave Curran
Department of Chemistry
University of Massachusetts-Amherst
curran@chem.umass.edu

—…and many happy returns to electrochemists everywhere!—

Check It Out!

Harvey Gold (Ph.D.: UNC-CH) contributes a Charlie Reilley anecdote to the June 1999 issue of *Today's Chemist at Work* (p. 72). More insight into the wry intellect and human warmth of the man who inspired the creation of SEAC.

—Enjoy!—

Reminders to the SEAC Members

—Join us!

SEAC's Membership Chairman, **Susan Lunte** [Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry; 2095 Constant Avenue, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66047, USA. E-mail: lunte@hbc.ukans.edu] will now receive all NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS and INITIAL DUES PAYMENTS. Remember: a membership form can be downloaded in either HTML or PDF format from the SEAC website [http://seac.tufts.edu/membership.html]. Any new members recruited by current members should send their completed applications directly to Susan.

—This Just In!

In addition to Steve Weber's ascension as President of SEAC, three new members were elected in the 1999 election to SEAC's Board of Directors for five-year terms (1999-2004). Congratulations to Andy Gilicinski, Harry Mark, and Adrian Michael.

—and now a message from Jim Cox, Chair of the Nominations Committee

(yes, there is a committee, not just Jim!)

During late October, the Nominations Committee will be determining the candidates for open offices and positions on the Board. If you have suggestions for candidates, please send them to Jim Cox, Chair, Nominations Committee, at coxja@miavx1.muohio.edu.

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Board of Directors

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