
INTERVIEW WITH ACS PRESIDENT-ELECT JOE FRANCISCO.....p. 5

Southwest

RETORT

May
2009

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PERIODICAL

Fifty Years Ago in The Southwest Retort

The University of Arkansas section has won the ACS award for outstanding public relations activities for a small section. Small is defined as less than 200 members. The U of A's membership of 50 ranks the section as third smallest of the 80 small sections. A major part of the group's effort has been directed toward encouraging high school science education. The members realized that the recently-constructed high school in Fayetteville had no laboratory facilities. A section committee made up of **Drs. L. Kruh, L. Bailey, A. Fry, and S. Siegel** held extensive consultations with high school officials to design a flexible, cost-effective laboratory. The school board allocated funds for laboratory construction, and the laboratory is now in daily use. Since then, the section has consulted with a number of other schools wanting similar assistance.

At the U of A, **Dr. Arthur Fry** has been promoted to Professor. **Dr. A. Wallace Cordes** and **Dr. George D. Blyholder** will join the faculty as, respectively, Assistant Professors of Inorganic and Physical Chemistry. **Dr. R. W. Fink** will go on sabbatical leave for a year to study nuclear science at the University of Glasgow. Local section officers for next year are: **Dr. R. F. Kruh**, Chair; **Dr. Paul K. Kuroda**, Chair-Elect; **Dr. Kurt H. Stern**, Secretary-Treasurer; **Dr. E. S. Amis**, Councilor; and **Dr. Arthur Fry**, Alternate Councilor.

The speaker for the April

meeting of the Central Arkansas Section was **Dr. Gordon Teal** of Texas Instruments, whose topic was "The Solid State, Research, and the New Electronics." The May meeting honored the first chair of the section, **Dr. Paul Day**, former head of the Biochemistry Department of the University of Arkansas Medical Center, who was recently appointed Scientific Director of the FDA.

At the University of Texas (*now UT-Austin*), **Dr. Lewis Hatch** was an ACS tour speaker in Pennsylvania during the month of March. **Dr. John McKetta**, Chair of Chemical Engineering, attended the AIChE meeting in Atlantic City in March and addressed the Michigan State Professional Engineers in Detroit.

Dr. A. F. Isbell of Texas A & M was as an ACS tour speaker in the Southeast during the month of February. **Dr. R. A. Zingaro** spent time at Oak Ridge participating in a short course on *Radioisotope Techniques*.

In the Southwestern Texas Section (*greater Houston*), **Thomas Aczel**, **L. G. Barnett, Jr.**, and **D. W. Jeffrey** have joined the Research and Development Division of Humble. Aczel holds a Ph.D. in physical chemistry from the University of Trieste, Italy. Barnett and Jeffrey are chemical engineers with M.S. degrees, respectively, from Tulane and MIT. At a recent meeting of the Baytown Section of ASME, **Irving Leibson** spoke on "Polypropylene---

****Continued on Page 15****



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INTERVIEW WITH ACS PRESIDENT-ELECT JOE FRANCISCO, PART 2

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Interviewer E. Thomas Strom

Editor's Foreword. This is the conclusion of my March 23 interview with President-Elect Joe Francisco. In this part Joe talks about what he hopes to accomplish in his three years in the ACS Presidential sequence.

Joe feels it is important to start a dialog between academia and industry. There is now a different landscape on the global marketplace for industry. Joe wonders whether the students we are turning out have the global skills to make them competitive in that global marketplace. He thinks there is a disconnect between industry and the universities. Industry claims that students need more global skills. When Joe asks what does that mean, he doesn't get clear answers. However, he thinks that industry wants people who can work on teams, cross cultural lines, have a sense of intellectual property, and a sense of ethics. Academia can respond to that by changing curricula. Of course, one big disadvantage for US students is that they only speak one language.



Joe wants to start dialog with CEO's and CTO's of industry.

Joe is interested in facilitating interdisciplinary work. He started his studies as a chemical engineer, switched to chemistry, and, as an atmospheric chemist, crossed discipline boundary lines. He was delighted last year when ACS had a joint meeting with AIChE. He is wondering if it is possible to connect ACS and the American Geophysical Union together in a joint meeting with sustainability being the driver for that.

Joe also feels the ACS Leadership Development Courses are an exciting innovation. They are, of course, useful for membership retention, but they can demonstrate to industry the value that ACS membership and meeting attendance brings

to the table.

So far as a grand plan for his three years in the presidential sequence, Joe wants to pick up some “low hanging fruit,” and he also has some more ambitious goals. Starting with an ambitious goal, Joe would like to organize an ACS International Center. Presently where can a student go for international experiences? The possibilities are spread out among various agencies and are quite diffuse. If you are a faculty member and want to organize a conference with international speakers, where do you go to get information about visas, transportation, etc.? It would be nice if there were just one place to get that information, and that could be at ACS headquarters in Washington. It would also be good for students to have a location where they could get some cultural pre-training about the countries they were going to visit. Joe was thinking of something like the Humboldt Foundation as a good model. Joe’s goal would be to roll something like that out during the International Year of Chemistry. Joe actually has a working group for that project.

A second goal is to see how ACS could be a catalyst for new job opportunities for members who are being displaced from their present jobs. His concept is that displaced senior chemists with managerial experience could be connected with young chemists not finding jobs to create new enterprises. The idea is that small businesses can take up the slack coming from shedding of jobs at big chemical businesses. There is a

group at ACS brainstorming that. He has asked George Whitesides to chair a task force to come up with new ways for chemical entrepreneurship.

I asked Joe about the “pipeline.” I noted there seems to be less interest of people coming into STEM (science/technology/engineering/mathematics) careers in recent years, plus the fact that chemical/pharmaceutical companies are shedding jobs at an alarming rate. How do we balance these things? Joe stated that yesterday he had discussed such matters with the German chemical society president. In Germany they found that downsizing in the German chemical industry correlated with a decrease in students entering chemistry. When the chemical industry was hiring, the student population in chemistry increased. Joe believes that students nowadays are very practical. He thinks this ties into some of his plans to create innovation that in turn will create new job opportunities. You can make chemistry exciting, but, if there are no new job opportunities, that excitement won’t go very far, not with today’s students.

At this point I shifted to my queries as to what brought Joe to chemistry, which was the subject of Part 1. Joe certainly has some good ideas for furthering the chemistry enterprise, and he fits the pattern of recent ACS presidents---very articulate and a good communicator. I think he will be quite effective as the public face of the Society in 2010, and I look forward to hearing more about the implementation of his ideas.

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OKLAHOMA CHEMIST CHOSEN

The 2009 Oklahoma Chemist is **Dr. Richard A. Bunce** from Oklahoma State University. He was honored for his research on the development of tandem reaction sequences for the synthesis of compounds having potential drug activity. *The Retort* will publish a feature article on Dr. Bunce later this year.

CHANGED RETORT DEADLINES.

This issue is deliberately late, as many end-of-the-academic year activities come late in May and have to be squeezed in. However, the April issue was late due to circumstances beyond your Editor's control. To try to limit the chances of this happening again, we are requesting earlier *Retort* deadlines. We want material sent to us by the 15th of the month preceding. Therefore, we need material for next September's issue by Aug. 15. Please help meet this new deadline.

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D-FW E-MAIL BLASTS!

D-FW section members undoubtedly remember getting e-mail blasts at various times during this last academic year. The blasts remind members of section meetings shortly before the deadline for making reservations, and they are a safety factor should the Post Office delay delivery of *The Southwest Retort* past the reservation deadline. Consequently the D-FW section needs an accurate list of member e-mail addresses which we normally get from the ACS national office.

For a typical e-mail blast, we have e-mail addresses for only 900 of our 1200 members, and, furthermore about 100 of these 900 messages bounce back for inaccurate addresses. What we need you members to do is to check your e-mail addresses with the ACS national office to see if they are accurate. If you haven't received an e-mail message from national over the last year, that probably means they have your address wrong, so you should see that it is corrected. If national doesn't have your e-mail address, you ought to give them one. Don't send them to us but to national. This can be done easily. Simply send an e-mail message to service@acs.org asking them to check your e-mail address or giving them your e-mail address if they don't have it. Please help us maintain the option of giving all our D-FW members important information in a timely manner.

Finally, please remember that the monthly meeting notices are posted on the section's website <http://www.acsdfw.org> as soon as they have been finalized. *The Southwest Retort* also appears on the website as soon as Minuteman Press has the magazine ready for printing.

A COUNCILOR'S DILEMMA

Opinion by E. Thomas Strom

Along with being Editor of *The Southwest Retort*, I wear another hat as one of the three councilors from the Dallas-Fort Worth ACS Section. My dilemma deals with a matter coming up at the August meeting of the ACS council that touches on election of the ACS President. First, let's review how the ACS president is chosen. The Council Committee on Nominations and Elections presents four candidates to the Council at the Spring meeting, from which the Council chooses two to run for President. Our own Angela Wilson is on that committee, and the committee certainly solicits input as to who those candidates should be. Typically the candidates for one year are either all academicians or all from industry, alternating from year to year. The four candidates usually give presentations and answer questions at a Sunday evening event open to all attending the spring meeting. Then they give additional presentations to the Council on Wednesday morning, and the

Council selects two of them by secret ballot. However, it is possible for petition candidates who get the appropriate number of signatures to also appear on the final ballot along with the chosen two.

Now go back with me a few years to the year in which Ann Nalley was serving as ACS President-Elect. A councilor from an Ivy League school came to the mike in the audience to question a Committee Chair at the podium. That councilor said that the ACS President needs to be very articulate and convincing because he/she represents the Society to the general public. He noted that the petition process resulted in candidates who might be elected who had not vetted by the Council. He thought there needed to be a way for the Council to be able to vet petition candidates as well. He also raised the specter that a popular petition academic candidate could win the ACS presidency in a year in which the president was supposed to be from industry. The Committee Chair at the podium wholeheartedly agreed with him. I viewed this as a backhanded slam at Ann Nalley, with the complaining councilor upset because an academician has been elected from a small school in Oklahoma rather than from a prestigious academic institution. However, actions started to be taken in line with that eastern councilor's criticisms. First, the number of signatures necessary to be a petition candidate for ACS president was nearly tripled. Next, a new petition titled "Petition on Election Timelines

and Procedures 2009” has been presented to Council to be voted on in August that would eliminate the members’ right to directly nominate a candidate for election. Members could nominate a candidate by petition all right, but the final limiting of candidates by Council would take place in August. Petition candidates would have to be in place by then, and the Council would vote on the entire slate---petition candidates plus those presented by the Committee on Elections and Nominations. Concluding, perhaps wrongly, that this was a delayed action shot at my friend Ann, my pet name for this petition is the “No More Ann Nalleys” petition.

Consequently, I, among many others, have signed a petition to come up for action that is designed to cancel the above petition. At this point, you may ask, “What is the dilemma? Clearly you have signaled that you are going to vote against the original petition that distresses you so. The petition will either pass or fail, and you will have to live with the consequences.” The dilemma is that the eastern councilor had a valid point. The Council really is the body that can best judge the candidates. The Council’s knowledge is wide and shallow, not deep, but the Council does at least get to hear the candidates sell themselves. I have interviewed the last six ACS presidents. They are all wellspoken, articulate people, and that is vital in communicating the importance and value of chemistry to the public at large. So, I can’t help but feel that the Council is

the best judge of the candidates, but I think it is undemocratic for the Council to be able to totally bypass the members. That’s my dilemma.

We still have a couple of months until the August meeting. In the interim, I would be interested in hearing what you readers have to say on the subject. My e-mail address is tomstrom@juno.com. Those of you from other sections might want to pass on your views to your councilors, who may hold entirely different views than I do. I imagine the Council will get it right in the end.

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CHEM GEMS & JOULES

Symposium: College and Career Readiness for Chemistry.

TWU and UNT are collaborating on this symposium for chemistry teachers at all levels. It will be held on Saturday, July 18, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at the UNT-Dallas campus at 7300 Houston School Rd. Directions: From Interstate 35E, exit at Camp Wisdom Rd., turn east and go 1 mile to Houston School Rd. Then turn right. The campus is 0.2 miles on the left. From Interstate 20, exit at Houston School Rd. and turn north. The campus is 2 miles on the right.

This is an opportunity to discuss the issues of college readiness, look at the current situation, and hear about ideas to work on the problem of students coming out of high school underprepared for college level chemistry.

The deadline for reservations is June 30, but registration is limited to 70 and slots are filling up. Reply to Diana Mason at dmason@unt.edu.

To whet teachers appetites, the tentative agenda for what promises to be a provocative and highly interactive presentation appears on page 16.

ACT2 Nominations. Members are encouraged to nominate outstanding teachers for one of the following awards. The George Hague, Jr. Award for Teaching Excellence honors a chemistry teacher who is clearly extraordinary. The Rosendo Garcia Spirit Award is a tribute to a chemistry teacher who promotes

ACT2 and shares the joy and art of teaching chemistry with fellow teachers. Nominations are due by June 30 to ACT2 President Rhonda Alexander at rhondaalex@gmail.com or Rhonda.Alexander@tylerisd.org.

D-FW Chemistry Olympiad.

Local section testing took place on Saturday, Mar. 14, with 88 students from ten different schools sitting for the exam. Of those, eleven outstanding chemistry students were invited back to sit for the national exam on Saturday, April 25. Following is a list of the eleven students, their schools, and their mentors. **David Heyen** and **Sophia Tanner**, Denton Guyer, *Paula Robinson*. **Kevin Huang** and **Amber Khan**, Plano West, *Nicole Lyssy*. **Austin Russell** and **Navtej Dhaliwal**, TAG Magnet, *Deborah Maner*. **Kaston Murrell**, Allen, *Dena Leggett*. **Yen-Nan Lin**, Texas Academy of Math & Science, *Dr. Dandekar*. **Sharon Cheng Li** and **Huasha Huang**, Plano, *Robyn Shipley-Gerko*. **Jay Hashop**, Greenhill School, *Chad Bittenbender*.

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Around-the-Area

University of Arkansas

Charles Wilkins attended the 7th North American FTMS Conference in Key West, FL in April. **Sasa Miladinovic** made a presentation coauthored by Wilkins at this conference. **Ryan Tian** attended the 2009 Materials Research Society meeting in San Francisco in April. **Feng Chen** made a poster presentation at this meeting. **Joshua Sakon** attended the 2009 Bio International Convention in Atlanta May 18-21. He will also attend the Yokosuka Science Festa 2009, 8th Pan-Pacific Connective Tissue Societies Symposium June 4-7 in Yokosuka, Japan. **Bob Gawley** presented a talk coauthored by **Tim Beng** and **Taher Yousaf** at the 19th Lakeland Heterocyclic Symposium in Grasmere, Cumbria, May 7-11.

The department gave awards April 23 to the undergraduate students as follows: *American Chemical Society Awards*, **Samuel Dunn**, **Lauren Hall**, **Hannah Henson** and **David Hopkins**; *A. W. Cordes Teaching Awards*, **Steven Gann**, **Chris Rupar**, and **Chad SeEVERS**; *Barbara Wertheim Campbell Awards*, **Whitney Gammill** and **Rachel Thomas**; *Coulter Jones Awards*, **Christopher Hall** and **Rodney LaGrone**; *Frederick A. Kekulé Award*, **Grant Meredith**; *Jacob Sacks Chemistry Award*, **Andrew Avery**; *Kathy Noland Chemistry Award*, **Ryan Shinabery**.

Estelle Huff successfully defended her doctoral work under the direction of **Peter Pulay**.

East Texas ACS Section

We give with regret a delayed report of the death of 50+ year ACS member Herman S. Krackenberger. He received his undergraduate degree from Bates College in Maine and his master's degree from North Carolina State. A resident of Marshall, he worked for many years at Thiokol's Longhorn Division in Karnack, designing propellants for rocket boosters. He retired in 1988 as quality assurance chief. *The Retort* expresses its sympathy to Mrs. Krackenberger and their two sons.

Heart o' Texas

Baylor University. **Dr. David Pennington** attended the 2009 Annual Meeting of the Council for Chemical Research in Salt Lake City April 19-21. Dr. Pennington was recognized on April 26 at the Honors Program 50th Year Celebration Banquet with a certificate for having directed more than ten students' honors programs theses. **Drs. Kevin G. Pinney** and **Mary Lynn Trawick** gave presentations at a scientific meeting April 23-24 sponsored by Oxigene, Inc. and held in South San Francisco. **Dr. Charles Garner** served on an NSF review panel April 21-22 dealing with nmr instrumentation. **Sheena Shipley**, **Talor Ott**, **Raj Patel**, **Dr. Sang Gon Kim**, and

Dr. Sung-Kun Kim presented their research results at the annual American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology National Meeting held April 18-22 in New Orleans.

The following students gave poster presentations as part of Baylor's Scholar's Week: **Matthew MacDonough, Nathan Grohmann, Kaitlin Wheeler, and Stephanie Li.**

Colloquium presentations: April 24, **D. J. Darensbourg**, Texas A&M; May 1, **David Barondeau**, Texas A & M.

D-FW Section

50 and 60 Year Members to be Honored. ACS National has given certificates to a number of long-term members from the Metroplex. These individuals will be honored at a dinner meeting later in the year. They are as follows: *50 Year Members*, **James C. Ash**, Arlington; **Dr. David W. Boone**, Dallas; **Dr. Jack P. Guillory**, McKinney; **Vitauts Jurevics**, Dallas; **Ronald F. Lindsey**, Dallas; **Carl J. Morgan**, Arlington; **Dr. Martin Pomerantz**, Dallas; **Dr. Don W. Shaw**, Southlake.

60 Year Members, **Glen Edward Crain**, Plano; **Robert Lewis Maute**, Richardson; **Dr. Peggy M. Wilson**, Cedar Hill; **Dr. William B. Smith**, Fort Worth.

Meeting-in-Miniature. The 42nd annual Meeting-in-Miniature was held at the University of North Texas on Saturday, May 2. There were 51 talks in the graduate sessions and 10 talks in the undergraduate sessions.

The cash awards are \$150 1st place, \$125 2nd place, and \$100 3rd place. Following is a listing, respectively, of the prize winners, their institutions, and their mentors.

Graduate Division: 1st Place, **Kimberly Brien**, "Bismuth Aryloxide Reactivity and Resulting Organic Oxidation Products," TCU, *Tracy Hanna*; 2nd Place, **Nadia Hundt**, "Synthesis of Regioregular Polythiophenes with Alkenyl Side Chains," UTD, *C. Mihaela Stefan*; 3rd Place, **Roy N. McDonald**, "Photoluminescence Studies of Trinuclear Gold (I) Complexes and Metal Cation Adducts," UNT, *Mohammad Omary*; Honorable Mention, **T. Gavin Williams**, "Adopting the Correlation Consistent Composite Approach for Systems of Biological Importance," UNT, *Angela Wilson*; **Marilou de la Cruz**, "Novel Solid-State All-CNT Supercapacitors," UTD, *John Ferraris and Ray Baughman*; **Ionut M. Alecu**, "The Kinetics and Thermochemistry of the C₂H₄Cl Reaction System," UNT, *Paul Marshall*; **Chalita Ratanatawanate**, "Photocatalytic Behavior of PbS Quantum Dot/TiO₂ Nanotube Composites," UTD, *Kenneth Balkus, Jr.*; **Jennifer M. Cambre**, "Sugar-Responsive Boronic Acid-Containing Block Copolymers Prepared by RAFT Polymerization," SMU, *Brent Summerlin*; and **Gbenga A. Oyedepo**, "Theoretical Study of Spectroscopic and Thermochemical Properties Using the Multi-Reference correlation consistent Composite Approach (MR-ccCA)," UNT, *Angela Wilson*.

Undergraduate Division: 1st Place, **Jade Jung**, "Osmium Cluster Synthesis in a Microwave Reactor," Abilene Christian, *Gregory Powell*; 2nd Place, **Kevin Holmes**, "Computational Study on the Organophorus Molecules Using the Ab Initio Quantum Chemical Method ccCA," UNT, *Angela Wilson*; 3rd Place, **Sandeep Manadhar**, "A Study of Mechanical Properties of Polyhydroxyalkonates (PHAs) Coated on Kraft Paper," UNT, *Nandika D'Souza*; Honorable Mention **Katheryn Shi**, "Theoretical Prediction of the Possible Existence of BrKrCCKrBr and FKrCCKrCCKrF," UNT, *Angela Wilson*; **W. H. Iain Oswald**, "Synthesis and Characterization of Copper Nanoparticles Involving Photochemistry," UNT, *Mohammad Omary*.

The meeting was organized by **Angela Wilson** with assistance from **Tom Cundari**. Coordinators were **Susan Brockington** and **Trevor Reigelman**. Set-up was done by **Betty Norwood** and **Jose Calderon** aided by Chair **Mike Richmond**. The judges were **Danny Dunn**, **Denise Merkle**, **Deborah Zorn**, **Bob Desiderato**, **Cynthia Powell**, **Vladimir Nesterov**, **Klaus Fischer**, **Andy Rusknko**, **Bob Shelton**, **Mary Anderson**, **Tammie Borders**, **Jennifer Ward**, and **Urszula Wettermark**.

There is a ten-year rotating schedule for the Meeting-in-Minature. Following are the locations for the next four years: 2010, UTD; 2011, Tarleton State; 2012, Univer-

sity of Dallas, 2013, Texas A&M-Commerce.

D-FW Honors Outstanding Chemistry Seniors. For a number of years the D-FW Section of the ACS has given \$100 scholarships to the most outstanding chemistry senior from each of the area universities. This year's winners are: **Noel Lewis**, University of Dallas; **Jonathan Bailey**, Texas A&M-Commerce; **Adeniyi Adebessin**, Abilene Christian, **Cara Barnes**, Austin College; **Afsha Rais**, SMU; **Pradeep Budhathoki**, TCU; **Charles Peterson**, UNT, and **Mason Stewart**, UT-Arlington.

Bill Carroll Honored.



OxyChem Vice President and former ACS President **Dr. Bill Carroll** was recently honored by Indiana University as one of five alums receiving the 2009 Distinguished Service Award. This award is the University's highest honor reserved solely for Indiana alums and provides recognition for outstanding career achievements and significant contributions benefiting the recipient's community, state, nation, or Indiana University. Bill is an adjunct professor at Indiana, teaching a course in polymer chemistry to senior under-graduate, and graduate, students.

Texas Christian University. **Professor Manfred Reinecke** was honored for 45 years of service to TCU, and **Professor John Albright** was honored for 40 years of service.

Faculty members **Onofrio Annunziata** and **Sergei Dzuyba** received TCU Research & Creative Activities Grants to study, respectively, "Protein Crystallization from the Liquid-Liquid Interface" and "Towards Naked-Eye Determination of the Absolute Configuration of Organic Molecules." Graduate students **Kim Brien** and **Bernat Martinez Ortega** and undergraduate **Kasun Jayarathna** presented posters at the TCU Student Research Symposium. Winners of the poster competition for undergraduate posters were **Annabel Alonso**, **Nicholas Smith**, and **Christopher Brown** in Sergei Dzuyba's group, and the graduate student winner was **Zhiguo Bian** from **David Minter's** group.

UNT. Welch Chair **Wes Borden** will be giving invited lectures at the International Symposium on Reactive Intermediates and Unusual Molecules held in Liblice, Czech Republic and at an Conference on Organic Free Radicals held in Ottawa in honor of Keith Ingold. **Tom Cundari** is giving invited talks at the Gordon Conference on Organometallics and at the NSF Inorganic Chemistry Workshop. He is co-PI on a grant dealing with Catalytic Hydrocarbon Functionalization. **Dr. James** and **Virginia Marshall** were on an ACS Lecture Tour on the Lone Star Circuit during the week of May 13. The Marshalls are working on a final DVD of their "Rediscovery of the Elements" enterprise. It will have about 10,000 photographs, each with an accompanying caption; 500 detailed maps; hundreds of hundreds

of text files with articles, biographies, histories, and periodic tables---all linked. The DVD should be ideal for the chemistry professional and student; for the teacher to develop programs and lesson plans; for laypersons curious about the history of chemistry; for the armchair traveler; and for the serious traveler who will have a travel guide to show exactly where to find each site (with exact GPS coordinates). The projected cost will be \$75 including tax and shipping, with all proceeds donated for chemistry education.

UT-Arlington. A number of students were honored recently for their academic and research accomplishments. The awards and the honorees are as follows: Undergraduate Research Award, **Sandi Spencer**; Graduate Research Award, **Manojkumar Bhandari** and **Bibhu Mishra**; Special Achievement Award, **Jiang Wu**; ACS Award for Outstanding Major and Undergraduate Teaching Award, **Mason Stewart**; CRC Handbook Award for Outstanding Freshman, **Phuong Duc**; Robert Francis Award for Outstanding Sophomore, **Blake Arthur**; R. L. Hoyle Award for Outstanding Junior, **Christopher Lowe**; John T. Murchison Award for Outstanding Senior, **Evelyn Wang**; Outstanding Chemistry Clinic Award, **Jimmy Saing**; Chemistry Biochemistry Society Leadership Award, **Karl Jones**; Graduate Teaching Award, **David Boston**.

Distinguished Research Professor **Krishnan Rajeshwar** received the Energy Technology Division

Research Award of the Electrochemical Society at the Society's meeting in San Francisco May 24-29. He gave a 45 minute award lecture entitled "Back to the Future: Photoelectrochemistry, Solar energy Conversion and Environmental Remediation." He also co-organized a symposium on "Photoelectrochemical Energy Conversion."

The UT-Arlington College of Science has received a \$50,000 grant from ExxonMobil Foundation for the Science Ambassador Program. The Science Ambassadors are a group of undergraduate students who present free science shows to school groups visiting the UTA campus, and the group also takes the to area schools' Science Nights. The science show was initially developed by **Dr. Greg Hale**, based on demonstrations that he and **Dr. Fred MacDonnell** have done for UTA visitors and at area schools for many years.


Welch Chair **Dr. Daniel Armstrong** has recently given talks at Pittcon 2009 in Chicago, the 77th Banquet of the Sigma Xi chapter at Oklahoma State, Supelco in Bellefonte, PA and in Portland, OR.

R.R. Vanga and **Zoltan Schelly** presented a talk at the NSTI Nanotech Conference 2009 May3-7 in Houston. **Dr. E. Thomas Strom** attended the SPE International Oil Field Chemistry Symposium April 20-22 in Houston, where he co-chaired the session on "Production Enhancement—Stimulation."

Special seminars at UTA were given on April 9 by **Dr. Bill Winniford** of Dow Chemical and on May 28 by **Dr. Edward S. Yeung** of Iowa State.

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New Plastic Material." **S. S. Shaffer** attended the ACS Conference on Education in Washington, D.C. **F. W. Lampe** spoke recently at Baytown's Travis Elementary School on "Studying to be a Chemist."

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Joint TWU-UNT Symposium: College and Career Readiness in Chemistry

Planning or considering attending the joint TWU-UNT Symposium College and Career Readiness in Chemistry? Then, review this tentative agenda, and give Dr. Mason a yell at dmason@unt.edu. General information on the symposium is under *Chem Gem & Joules* on page 10.

9:30 a.m., Registration/Brunch. **10:15 a.m.**, Welcome, Vice Chancellor *Price*, UNT-Dallas. **10:30 a.m.**, Plenary 1, *Debbie Koeck*, TSU/San Marcus, “Chemistry in the 21st Century: Alignment of TEKS and CCRS.” **11:15 a.m.**, Discussion. **11:30 a.m.**, Break.

11:45 a.m., Breakout 1: Teacher Panel (*Vickie Williamson*, MC/TAMU; *Jo King*, AP and Dual Credit (large city)/Amarillo; *Robyn Ford*, AP and Department Chair/Denton; *Kris Sherman*, TNT Pre-service teachers/UNT, Denton; *Jaime Holes*, AP and Dual Credit (small town)/Aubrey. Breakout 2: University and College Expectations in Mathematics (*Kathleen Holley*, MC/UNT; *Mary Ann Teel*, UNT/Denton).

12:15 p.m., Interface Speed Lunch, Instructions, (*Bob Shelton*, UNT Undergrad Advisor/Chemistry Instructor TWU and UNT.) **12:30 p.m.**, Table leaders will address: University Chemistry Readiness (*Dick Sheardy*, TWU/Denton); Mathematics Readiness (*Mary Ann Teel*, UNT/Denton); Career Readiness (*Kirk Hunter*, Texas State Technical College/Waco); College Chemistry Readiness (*Tom Jose*, Blinn College/College Station); Dual Credit Readiness (*Sharon Hague*, Science Facilitator/Garland); Chemistry Laboratory Readiness (*Cynthia Powell*, Abilene Christian College/Abilene); and Chemistry Assessment Readiness (*Lauri McDonald*, Highland Park High School, Highland Park. **1:20 p.m.**, Break

1:30 p.m., Breakout 1: Teacher Panel (*Vickie Williamson* MC/TAMU); *Jo King*, AP and Dual Credit (large city)/Amarillo; *Robyn Ford*, AP and Department Chair/Denton; *Kris Sherman*, TNT Pre-service teachers/UNT, Denton; *Jaime Noles*, AP and Dual Credit (small town)/Aubrey. Breakout 2: University and College Expectations (*Kathleen Holley*, MC/UNT; *Mary Ann Teel*, UNT/Denton. **2:00 p.m.**

2:15 p.m., Plenary 2, *Amina El-Ashmaway*, Collin College, McKinney, “College Readiness for Texas: A Community College Perspective.” **2:50 p.m.**, Discussion.

3:00 p.m., Plenary 3, *Kirk Hunter*, TSTC/Waco, “Career Readiness for Texas: A Technical College Perspective.” **3:35 p.m.**, Discussion. **3:45 p.m.**, Closing/Evaluations.

4:00 p.m. Dismissal.