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From the Chair

Year So Far Shows Progress, Opportunities

In preparation for the experience of chairing your local section, ACS provides a very valuable weekend training course. During this course they emphasize a few key messages, which I would summarize as follows:

• The year will go very fast so make up your mind early what you really want to achieve and focus on it.

• Be prepared to ask lots of people to help you and prepare yourself for frequent rejection.

• Write a five-minute “our section” talk because you will often be called upon to deliver it.

Well, Warning Number One has certainly justified itself. With this column for the June issue of The Midland Chemist we’re already halfway through the year and I hardly feel I’ve started. One of my key goals was to establish a new committee that expands active participation of members in our local section activities. The primary target was a Younger Chemists Committee, which I’m pleased to see is now thriving thanks to Wendy Flory’s leadership. A sort of counterbalancing Senior Chemists Committee was also envisaged, but I’ve received no indication from the membership that it is needed; indeed I feel somewhat like Letterman waiting for the call from Oprah (or like Godot’s friends, if you prefer) in this regard.

This is an important issue because we have many older members, and National ACS is asking that we pay particular attention to them. I have just received a Section demographic report from ACS indicating that 11% of our members are in their sixties and 18% are over 70, i.e., almost a third of the membership in these two categories (see graph on pg. 2). Please share your views on this matter with me.

Warning Number Two turns out to be only half right. I have had to ask a number of people to help, but mostly they have said ‘yes’ rather than ‘no.’ I’m truly grateful for the high level of support I’m getting this year. The latest example I would like to acknowledge is Kurt Brandstadt, who has graciously agreed to lead our hosting of the Central Regional Meeting in 2006. Three years is not too soon to begin planning for a significant event such as this, and we are much indebted to Kurt for his willing acceptance. He’s a fine example of the old adage about asking a busy person if you want to get something done. Kurt is not only working full-time for Dow Corning, but he is also pursuing his Ph.D. at the Open University in
England. We wish him luck in all three endeavors. For those of you who might be disappointed at not getting the chance to lead a regional meeting, I should point out there will be future opportunity. We are committed to hosting the 2013 and 2019 Central Regional Meetings as well (forward planning of national and regional meetings is an ACS strength). The significance of 2019 is that it marks the hundredth anniversary of the founding of our section.

Warning Number Three seemed unnecessary for a while. I did write my set-piece, but no opportunity arose to use it. However, on May 1 at the Spring Science Education Recognition Dinner the opportunity finally arrived. What a super event this is. My thanks to all of the Awards Committee members for making this a terrific evening. A wide range of people were recognized, including U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad winners and outstanding high school and college chemistry students. Other awards went for Outstanding Achievement in Elementary Level Science Education, Outstanding Achievement in College Chemistry Teaching, and the 2003 Science Education Volunteer. We also had the great pleasure of recognizing some of our 50-year members of ACS. Those who could not attend will be recognized at the Fall Scientific Meeting. Articles elsewhere in The Midland Chemist will give greater detail regarding the awardees. Suffice it to say for this column that it was great fun to be present; it gave me great memories from the past and lots of encouragement for the future of the Midland Section.

Mike Owen
The Science Education Recognition Dinner was held on Thursday, May 1, at The Dow Chemical Company’s 47 Building. This event was well attended by high school and college students, parents, and teachers. Also in attendance were members of the ACS Midland Section that sponsored the event. The reception was held in the atrium of Dow 47 Building, which has an impressive display of the history of Dow Chemical. After the reception, a buffet dinner was held in the main dining room, which was followed by the awards presentation.

The event began with opening remarks by the Section Awards Committee chair, Petar Dvornic. The 2003 chair of the Midland Section, Mike Owen, gave a synopsis of both the national and local activities of the American Chemical Society.

Local area high school students were recognized with the following awards: John Lorand and Sharyl Majorski-Briggs presented the U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad awards. These prestigious awards were given to eight area students who scored the highest in the national exam. They are Scott Allen and Kunil Raval of Saginaw Arts and Science Academy, Andrew Brod and Tyler Youngquist of H.H. Dow High School, Timothy Hill and Chris Schroeder of Midland High School, and Braden Richardson and Eric Schwiderson of AuGres-Sims High School.
Following the Olympiad awards, Deb Mendrick presented the Outstanding High School Chemistry Students awards to fifteen local area students, who were the best chemistry students at their respective schools. They are: Jennifer Blakeslee (Chesaning Union), Andrew Brod (Midland: H.H. Dow), Kendra Byler (Midland: Bullock Creek), Sarah Carman (Frankenmuth), Daniel Chonde (Midland), Andrew Crapo (Saginaw: Nouvel Catholic Central), Caitlin Fowler (Saint Louis), Larissa Leffingwell (Shepard), Mary Leyrer (Saginaw: Arthur Hill), Andrew McBride (Ashley), Krista McCoy (Mount Pleasant: Sacred Heart Academy), Sheena Moes (Alma), Michael Noble (Saginaw: Heritage), Anthony Valliere (Merrill), and Euen Weinecke (Freeland).

This year Petar Dvornic presented the Outstanding College Chemistry Students awards to five local area students, who were the best chemistry students at their respective colleges. They are: Brianna White, John Sivey, Janet Kaminski, and Sarah Jewell. Presenter Petar Dvornic is at right in back.
award for Outstanding College Chemistry Students to students at four local colleges: Sarah Jewell (Alma College), John Sivey (Central Michigan University), Janet Kaminski (Delta College), and Brianna White (Saginaw Valley State University).

A principal was also honored at this recognition dinner with the Outstanding Achievement in Elementary Level Science Education Award. Paul Popa presented this award to Leon Katzinger from Auburn Elementary School.

Steve Keinath presented the Outstanding Achievement in College Chemistry Teaching to Dale Meier from Michigan Molecular Institute. Although Dr. Meier is well known principally as one of world’s leading polymer scientists, a lesser-known attribute of his abilities is his talent to teach and inspire students, as many testimonials revealed.

John Blizzard presented the award for the 2003 Science Education Volunteer to Charles Roth, a retiree from Dow Corning Corporation. Chuck Roth and his wife Barbara have volunteered tirelessly for our Section.

Leon Katzinger (left) receives the Outstanding Achievement in Elementary Level Science Education Award from Paul Popa.

Dale Meier (left) receives the Outstanding Achievement in College Chemistry Teaching Award from Steve Keinath.

We’re responsible . . .

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We’re responsible because we care.
It is always a privilege to acknowledge our long-time members. Several ACS members have earned 50-year-member awards, including Donald Ingebritson, John Saam, Robert Hotchkiss, Henry Hennis, Donald Petersen, I. Arthur Murphy, Theodore Selby, Vernon Fauver, and Robert Cierzniewski. Four of the awardees were present at the banquet to receive their awards, and they are pictured below. An article in the August *The Midland Chemist* will be dedicated to all the awardees. The remaining awards will be presented at the Fall Scientific Meeting in October.

Chemistry is a vital science in our society. The Midland Section of the American Chemical Society, for the last twelve years, has recognized outstanding students who are the learners of chemistry, teachers who pass their knowledge of chemistry to their students and, equally important, the
volunteers of chemistry who unselfishly donate their time to the community in the desire to promote chemistry.

Please contact Angelo Cassar (angelo.cassar@chartermi.net, 989-631-7128) if you would like to receive a digital photograph of any of the awardees via email. I would also like to recognize Randi Merrington, Britt Lundberg, and Dawn Wright for their secretarial support and the Midland Section ACS Awards Committee for putting on an excellent Science Education Recognition Dinner.

Midland Section ACS Awards Committee

- Petar Dvornic (chair)
- Mike Ferritto
- Deb Mendrick
- Wendy Mathews
- Paul Popa
- Steve Keinath
- Steve Kaganove
- Pam Slavings
MMI Announces 2003 Turner Alfrey Visiting Professor Short Course

Tailoring Material Surface Properties with Tethered Chains

June 16–20, 2003, Monday–Friday, 3:00–6:00 p.m.

Professor Matthew Tirrell, Richard A. Auhll professor and dean, College of Engineering, University of California, Santa Barbara, is the 2003 Turner Alfrey Visiting Professor at Michigan Molecular Institute. Professor Tirrell will offer a course on “Tailoring Material Surface Properties with Tethered Chains.” Specific lecture topics and a brief description of each topic include:

**Lecture 1 “Tethered Chains”**

The attachment of macromolecular chains on surfaces by their ends produces a range of interesting structures and properties. The variety of important situations in polymer science where tethered chains are or can be important will be discussed.

**Lecture 2 “Polymer Brushes and Self-Assembly of Block Copolymer Monolayers”**

Polymer brushes are composed of macromolecules attached by one end to a surface or interface. Mechanisms to create polymer brushes will be discussed. Experiments that reveal the special structures and properties of polymer brushes will be explained.

**Lecture 3 “Polyelectrolyte Brushes”**

Charged polymers exert long-range forces on one another. End-tethered polyelectrolyte chains afford special insight into interactions between charged macromolecules. Properties are relevant to systems that range from bioadhesion to water-based colloids.
Lecture 4 “Dynamic Properties of Polymer Interfaces”
Adhesion, friction, and lubrication are all examples of surface properties that depend on the rate of deformation applied to the interface in question. Some recent results on dynamic properties of tethered chains at polymer interfaces will be discussed.

Lecture 5 “Biofunctionalization of Surfaces with Tethered Peptide Chains”
Interactions between surfaces of synthetic materials and cells and tissues can be significantly improved by the presentation of peptides on surfaces that serve to provide appropriate biological signals. Self-assembly of tethered peptides via amphiphilic macromolecules is an effective route to this improvement.

Details Concerning the Short Course
Course 1030: Tailoring Material Surface Properties with Tethered Chains
Lecturer: Prof. Matthew Tirrell, Richard A. Auhll Professor and Dean, College of Engineering, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA
Location: Lecture Hall (Room 101), Michigan Molecular Institute, 1910 West St. Andrews Road, Midland, MI 48640
Time: Formal lectures: Monday–Friday, June 16–20, 2003, 3:00–6:00 p.m.
Fee: There is no fee for auditors if they belong to organizations participating in the Turner Alfrey Visiting Professor program: Dow Chemical, Dow Corning, Saginaw Valley State University, Central Michigan University, Michigan State University, Midland Section of the ACS, and Mid-Michigan Section of the SPE. For all others, a course fee of $300 will be required at registration. All participants, however, must register.
Registration: Preregistration is required one week in advance with the Registrar by calling (989) 832-5555, ext. 555 or by e-mail at registrar@mmi.org.

Professor Matthew Tirrell
Professor Tirrell received his undergraduate education in chemical engineering from Northwestern University, completing his B.S. degree in 1973. He received his Ph.D. degree in polymer science and engineering from the University of Massachusetts in 1977. From 1977 to 1999, he was on the faculty of the Department of Chemical
Engineering and Materials Science at the University of Minnesota. He served as acting head of that department from 1992–1993 and department head from 1995–1999. Dr. Tirrell joined the University of California-Santa Barbara in 1999 as a professor in the departments of Chemical Engineering and Materials and is also Richard A. Auhll professor and dean of the College of Engineering.

His research interests have focused on understanding polymer surface properties, including adsorption, adhesion, surface treatment, friction, lubrication, and biocompatibility. He has coauthored about 250 papers and one book and has supervised the graduate work of about 15 M.S. students and 50 Ph.D. candidates.

Dr. Tirrell was named a Sloan Fellow in 1982 and a Guggenheim Fellow in 1986. He was also the recipient of the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Award in 1980 and the NSF Presidential Young Investigator Award in 1984. He received the Allan Colburn Award in 1985, the Professional Progress Award in 1994, and the Charles Stine Award in 1996, all from AIChE. He was also the recipient of the Dillon Medal from the American Physical Society in 1987 and became a fellow of the APS in 1987. He was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 1997, became a fellow of the American Institute of Medical and Biological Engineers in 1998, was elected a fellow of AAAS in 2000, and was named institute lecturer for AIChE in 2001.

Dr. Tirrell is an accomplished lecturer and has been an invited lecturer at 28 universities and research centers since 1984. He has served on the editorial advisory boards or as editor or associate editor of 13 scientific journals and four technical book publishers. Dr. Tirrell is a member of 12 technical societies, including AAAS, ACS, AIChE, American Institute of Medical and Biological Engineers, American Society for Engineering Education, APS, Biomedical Engineering Society, Controlled Release Society, Materials Research Society, Society of Biomaterials, Society of Polymer Science (Japan), and Society of Rheology.

Throughout his career, Dr. Tirrell has tirelessly offered exemplary leadership to the technical community at large, the universities he has served, and through numerous advisory and consulting relationships. He has served as chair or co-chair of many conferences, organizations, and committees.

For additional details on Dr. Tirrell’s illustrious career and commitment to service to the technical, academic, and business communities, visit his home page at http://www.chemengr.ucsb/people/faculty/tirrell.html.
Self-assembly is a route to the processing of chemical products that relies on the information content built into process precursors. The bonding mechanisms of self-assembled products are weaker than the electronic bonds of molecules, yet the complexity built into self-assembled products is at the level of supermolecular structure. Self-assembly processes may be spontaneous or directed by the influence of templates or fields. Self-assembly processes occur frequently in biology, but translating that bioinspiration into controllable chemical processing presents many interesting problems.

The challenge for chemical engineers today is to develop practical routes to technologically important self-assembly processes. Applications relevant to biomaterials, porous materials, molecular electronics, and many other areas are envisioned. However, several critical hurdles must be overcome. These include the precision synthesis of precursors, mastering the kinetics and dynamics of such processes, practical scale-up, and the characterization and control of self-assembly products and processes. Prospects for success and current efforts in these areas will be discussed.

Professor Matthew Tirrell is the Richard A. Auhll professor and dean of the College of Engineering, University of California, Santa Barbara, and 2003 MMI Turner Alfrey Visiting professor.
Nearly 15,000 Attend National ACS Meeting

By Bob Howell

The 225th national meeting of the American Chemical Society was held in New Orleans. The official meeting dates were March 23–27, but, of course, committee meetings and the activities of Midland Section councilors started earlier on Friday, March 21. Both councilors (Bob Howell and Gretchen Kohl) continue to be active members of several committees. Howell is a member of the executive board and several subcommittees of the Committee on Patents and Related Matters. The committee has just published a new edition of the booklet entitled, “What Every Chemist Should Know About Patents,” and will select nominees for the Inventor’s Hall of Fame and the National Technology Medal at the fall meeting. He is also a member of the Organic Chemistry Examination Committee. At this meeting the committee constructed two examinations of 70 questions each. These will be tested this spring semester and the results will be used for the formulation of the 2004 ACS Organic Examination.

There was a total of 14,576 registrants, 1501 exhibitors (occupying 504 booths and representing 290 companies), and 8700 papers scheduled. Because of travel restrictions, particularly for international scientists, the attendance was somewhat smaller than expected. In fact, some U.S. companies had imposed travel restrictions such that a few domestic cancellations also occurred. As a consequence of the temporary ban on air travel, several people (including some of the Midland Section attendees) drove great distances to attend the meeting or took the train. Considering the uncertainty of the times, attendance of the meeting was quite good. At the opening of the council meeting, President Reichmanis paid special tribute to the members of our armed services who are risking all to ensure our security, which permits such meetings to be held in a safe, unfettered way.

The major item considered at the council meeting was the petition for division and local section funding. This is a scheme to provide significantly more funding to divisions. For more information, see the related article on page 14.

In other council action:
- Dues for 2004 were set at the full escalated (based on the increase in the Consumer Price Index for Services) amount of $120.
- William F. Carroll, Jr., and Michael E. Strem were selected as candidates for 2004 ACS president-elect.
- Because of the increasing number of ACS members of retirement age and beyond, local sections are encouraged to establish a Senior Chemists Committee to respond to the interests and needs of members in the “Silver Circle” and to keep them involved in ACS activities. (It might be
noted that this is an action already under consideration by the Midland Section.)

- A new Chemluminary award has been established to recognize the most outstanding joint activity by a local section and a division.
- The theme for the 2004 National Chemistry Week will be the “Chemistry of Health.”
- E.J. Corey has been named the winner of the 2004 Priestly Medal.
- The Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation has been selected as a nominee for the National Technology Medal
- The Polymer Research Center at Polytechnic University has been designated a national chemical historic landmark.

Current ACS membership stands at 161,144. The ACS is the world’s largest scientific society.

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**Call for Volunteers**

**Members Plan County Fair Activities**

*By Wendy Mathews*

Plans are in the works for the Midland Section ACS activities at the Midland County Fair. This has been a very popular event for a number of years and serves to:

- Teach children about science
- Support the science industry in the local area
- Support ACS affiliated groups with outreach
- Advertise upcoming events
- Reach potential members
- Show pride in what we do

Plans include science demonstrations on August 14 and 15 and Professional Day on August 15. This is a fun event for everyone! If you would like participate, please contact:

Wendy Mathews
Home: 989-689-6305; wemathew@alpha.delta.edu
Work: 989-636-3934; wemathews@dow.com
At the New Orleans Council Meeting, the ACS Council voted to change the constitution and bylaws to alter the way divisions and local sections receive allocations from the society. The changes in the constitution specify that a portion of the dues collected from members will be allocated directly to divisions and local sections, as specified in the bylaws. This council action must be ratified by the members of the society. Ballots are expected to be sent to the membership in late spring or early summer. The bylaw changes specify that 20% of membership dues paid each year be split between local sections (11%) and divisions (9%). The new funding procedure would provide a modest increase for local sections, a substantial increase for divisions, and fund both at a similar level based on membership.

The ACS is currently under some financial strain, primarily due to the economic downturn and its effects on investments. The ACS Board of Directors has approved a plan to pay for the increased funds through a combination of cost savings and a temporary assessment added to dues of $2 in 2004, $4 in 2005, $6 in 2006, and $8 in 2007. After 2007, the temporary assessment expires. The board will review the temporary assessment during their annual review and may cancel it before 2007 if other sources of revenue are found to cover the allocations. The board is committed to finding a permanent solution by 2007.

ACS is a volunteer organization. The grassroots efforts of local sections and divisions are essential to the society. These changes will strengthen the society. This petition took about 3 years to come together though a joint local section/division task force. It is a major step forward in division and local section cooperation and collaboration. I urge you to give consideration to the constitutional changes and vote when you get the ballot. Information, discussion, and frequently asked questions are available at http://web.umr.edu/~fblum/acs/bylaws.info.html.
Call for Volunteers

Fall Scientific Meeting Needs Your Help

By Wendy Flory and Dale LeCaptain

It’s that time of year again to organize the Fall Scientific Meeting for the American Chemical Society, and we are looking for volunteers interested in contributing their time and talent for the meeting preparation. This is a great opportunity to get to know scientists in the Midland area. Currently, preliminary thoughts on the meeting are being discussed.

Each year the local ACS sponsors a meeting in the fall, typically in October. Last year we held the meeting on a Friday afternoon and had nearly 300 people attend at Dow’s Employee Development Center (EDC). The topic was “More reactions on a smaller scale, faster” with Mike Ramsey, inventor of Lab-On-A-Chip from Oak Ridge National Labs, giving the keynote address.

Our topic for this year is “Green Chemistry.” Professor Rich Gross from Virginia Polytechnic University will give the keynote address. We have also invited Governor Jennifer Granholm as a possible keynote speaker, but will not receive an answer to our invitation until 60 days before the event. The meeting will be held on October 17, a Friday afternoon. Dow has again donated the use of the EDC facility for this event.

There is still plenty to do for this meeting and we would like your help! There are several areas that need volunteers, including speakers committee, location committee, program committee, publicity committee, and the exposition committee. Much of the work can be completed via email. Please consider volunteering for this dynamic event. Contact Wendy Flory (989-636-5097, wcflory@dow.com) or Dale LeCaptain (989-774-3993, dale.lecaptain@cmich.edu).
Call for Posters

2003 Fall Scientific Meeting

ACS Midland Section
Friday, October 17, 2003
Employee Development Center
The Dow Chemical Company

Please consider presenting a poster at the Fall Scientific Meeting. Abstracts are being accepted now through September 18th. All areas of chemistry and chemistry-related topics are invited.

Abstract Format

Each abstract should contain: title, author(s) and author(s) affiliations, and abstract body text.

The format specifics:

• Single spacing with blank line between title and author and between author and abstract body text.
• Times New Roman typeface in 12-point (or comparable) type size.
• Submit as an e-mail attachment in either Microsoft Word or Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format.
• Please try to limit the abstract to 225 words.
• Underline the name of the presenting author (note, the e-mail address of the submitter will be the default contact person for all additional information)
• E-mail abstracts to dale.lecaptain@cmich.edu

Address questions to Dale LeCaptain, Department of Chemistry, Central Michigan University, ph. 989-774-3993, dale.lecaptain@cmich.edu.

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Call for 2004 Officer Candidates

By Gary Kozerski

The time has again come to identify candidates to run for elected leadership positions in the ACS Midland Section! The following positions with terms beginning January 2004 will be up for election this fall:

1-year terms
- Chair-elect
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Chair, Nominations and Elections Committee

3-year terms
- Director (three open positions)

A detailed job description for each position can be found on the Midland Section web site, http://membership.acs.org/M/Midl/Leaders.htm. For questions, suggestions, or to express interest in running for a position, contact Gary Kozerski by e-mail (gary.kozerski@dowcorning.com) or phone (989-496-6788). Please consider this opportunity to shape the future of your local section!

In Past Issues of The Midland Chemist

By Wendell L. Dilling, Midland Section Historian

- 30 Years Ago This Month—Professor Georges Smets, University of Leuven, Belgium, was announced as the 1973 Visiting Professor at MMI. The announcement stated that he would deliver a course on “Photochemistry in Macromolecular Science” from September 25 to October 13, 1973.

- 20 Years Ago This Month—Ed Flagg, activities editor of The Midland Chemist, published an extensive article on “H. H. Dow and the Early Years of the Midland ACS Section.” The article noted that Dow was inducted into the National Inventors’ Hall of Fame in February, 1983.

- 10 Years Ago This Month—Corinne Marasco from the ACS Office of Professional Services, in a letter to members of the Midland Local Section, requested, on behalf of the ACS’s Committee on Professional Relations, information concerning a multiple termination at Dow Research and Development. She stated that without assistance from the Midland Section it is likely that there would be under-reporting of the number of terminees.
Important Dates on the ACS Midland Section Calendar

June 9  Midland Section board meeting, Central Michigan University, Dow 264, 7:00 p.m. There will be no July issue of *The Midland Chemist*.

June 16–20 Professor Matthew Tirrell, “Tailoring Material Surface Properties with Tethered Chains,” MMI Turner Alfrey Visiting Professor Short Course, 3:00–6:00 p.m., Lecture Hall (Rm 101), Michigan Molecular Institute.

June 17  Joint SPE/ACS/AIChE/ASM Dinner Meeting, “Chemical Processing by Self-Assembly,” Professor Matthew Tirrell, Social: 6:30 p.m., Dinner 7:00 p.m., Program: 8:00 p.m., NADA Center, Northwood University, Midland.

June 20  Deadline for vote on ACS funding petition.

July 7  Deadline for August issue of *The Midland Chemist*. There will be no board meeting in July.