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YCC January Networking Event
Heather Spinney, YCC

The Young Chemists’ Committee (YCC) of the Midland Local ACS Section invites you to a January Networking Event at the Midland Brewing Company on Friday, January 25th, 5:30-7:30 PM.

Come out and enjoy an after work beverage with your local chemist colleagues. Learn about the local YCC group and upcoming events that are being planned. Pizza and snacks will be provided. Contact Heather Spinney (hspinney@dow.com) if you have any questions.

Engineers Week Dinner/Program
Eldon Graham, Secretary, Saginaw Valley Engineering Council

Please mark your calendars for Thursday, February 21, 2013 for the National Engineers Week Program. This will be hosted by the Mid-Michigan Chapter of the Society of Automotive Engineers and will be held at the Bavarian Inn Conference Center in Frankenmuth.

Please contact Bernard Santavy (810-635-7948) for tickets, by Feb. 18. Tickets may also be purchased online at http://www.midmichigansae.org/index.shtml. Tickets are $20 for retirees (and guests), $25 for members (and guests), $18 for students (and guests), and $30 for non-members. All members (and guests) of Saginaw Valley Engineering Council (SVEC) member societies qualify for the SAE member rate. FYI, the Midland Section ACS is a member society of SVEC.
The Engineers Week program, besides the awards, will consist of presentations by Student SAE Project Members from Baker College, Central Michigan University, Kettering University, and Saginaw Valley State University. The event begins at 6:00 p.m. (social hour), 7:00 p.m. (dinner) and 8:00 p.m. (program).

Midland Section ACS Historical Exhibit at Clarke Historical Library

*Wendell Dilling, Midland Section Historian*

The Midland Section ACS will have an exhibit of Section historical materials on display in the Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University for several months in the first half of 2013. This exhibit will also be featured at the 44th ACS Central Regional Meeting being held at CMU on May 15-17, 2013. If any local section members have suggestions of special historical items that they feel should be part of this exhibit, please inform the Section Historian, Wendell Dilling, at dilli1wl@cmich.edu or 989-631-1621. The entire Midland Section ACS historical archives are too large to exhibit all of it.

Anderson Development Company Looking for Chemists

*Mark Kramer, Anderson Development Company*

Anderson Development Company is a fine and specialty chemical company located in Adrian, MI, about 45 min SW of Ann Arbor, MI and 40 min NW of Toledo, OH. Although, many people have never heard of us, I can guarantee that you have seen our products without knowing it, in someone else's product. We have done custom synthesis work for Midland area chemical companies.

We are looking to hire two chemists, namely, a research scientist and an analytical chemist. We are just starting to talk to people, so the timing is good to send employment inquiries our way now. Although we are primarily looking to fill these positions with BS/MS minimum level candidates, we are very open to hiring someone with more advanced degrees.

For more information, contact Mark Kramer (mark.kramer@anddev.com) or send inquiries to the Anderson Human Resources group in Adrian (HR.Adrian@anddev.com).

Announcing the 2013 Spring Science Awards Banquet and Call for Nominations

*Lauren Huffman, Awards Committee Chair*

It is that time of year again when we have the opportunity to recognize outstanding educators, volunteers and colleagues. I am asking that you take the time and nominate that outstanding person to be recognized at the American Chemical Society-Midland Section Awards Banquet which will be held on Tuesday, April 23rd at the Great Hall Banquet and Convention Center in Midland. This promises to be an exciting event. The awards banquet is a great way to connect with others in the industry, those who have gone before us, those who teach the next generation, and those who will be following in our footsteps.

The process of nominating can be fun and easy. Consider getting your colleagues together for lunch and putting together a packet. If you are in a managerial role and are worried about favoritism, consider nominating 2-3 qualified persons (you will remain anonymous). If you feel you deserve an award but everyone is just too busy to notice, consider leaving suggestions or have an outright discussion with your manager. If you are a parent: Does your child have a great science teacher? If so, consider nominating...
him/her. From personal experience, if you know the deserving person, it only takes 30 minutes to put together an award winning letter and an additional 15 minutes soliciting supporting letters and following up on them. Think of what it will mean to that person and how good you will feel about your good deed.

When you realize how exciting it is to nominate someone at the local level and you want to do more, I invite you to peruse the veritable cornucopia of awards the American Chemical Society offers at the national level. I have listed these at the end of the call for nominations along with a web address where you can find out more information (see below).

Nomination packets for all awards (except outstanding high school and collegiate awards) must, at a minimum, consist of a current resume or equivalent, and two supporting letters in addition to your letter of nomination, all stating why the nominee is deserving of the award with specific examples of professional involvement, growth, contributions to industry, and outside affiliations. It is highly recommended that the nomination include a publications and patent list where applicable and additional letters of support which can come from students, parents, community members, and/or administrators. A nomination letter example can be requested from the Awards Committee Chair, Lauren Huffman (lmhuffman@dow.com). Nominations not meeting the minimum requirements and submissions received after the March 29 deadline will not be considered.

For those of you sequestered in labs who feel you might not be able to attend unless you nominate someone, I say save the date and come on out for a night of food, fun, and fraternization! Watch for more detailed information on the speaker, time and price right here in the Midland Chemist in the coming months!

Contact me if you have any questions, Lauren Huffman, Midland Section ACS Awards Committee Chair (lmhuffman@dow.com).

Call for Nominations: 2013 Science Teaching, Volunteer, Education, and Chemical Sciences Awards

Lauren Huffman, Awards Committee Chair

Each year, the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society presents awards to recognize outstanding achievement in the chemical sciences. Nominations for the 2013 awards are invited for the following areas:

- Outstanding Elementary Level Science Teaching
- Outstanding Middle Level Science Teaching
- Outstanding High School Chemistry Teaching
- Outstanding College Chemistry Teaching
- Science Education Volunteer of the Year
- Outstanding Achievement and Promotion of the Chemical Sciences
- Outstanding Service to the American Chemical Society
- Outstanding Achievement in the Promotion of Diversity in Chemistry, Related Sciences and Engineering
- Outstanding Chemical Technician
- Outstanding High School/College Chemistry Students
Outstanding Science/Chemistry Teaching Awards
Candidates for the teaching awards must be educators at schools in the five-county geographical area of the Midland Section: Bay, Gratiot, Isabella, Midland and Saginaw Counties. One candidate will be recognized for their teaching contributions in each of the following categories: Elementary, Middle Level, High School, and College.

Science Education Volunteer of the Year
The Science Education Volunteer of the Year award is presented to an individual who makes a substantial contribution to science learning in the Midland Section through voluntary efforts.

Outstanding Achievement and Promotion of the Chemical Sciences
Each year the Midland Section honors an individual residing within the Section’s geographical area who has demonstrated outstanding achievement and promotion of the chemical sciences. This award recognizes dedication and service to the chemical profession, but the recipient need not be an ACS member.

Outstanding Service to the American Chemical Society
The Section sponsors an annual award to recognize outstanding service to the Midland Section of the ACS. This award recognizes achievement in the promotion of the goals and objectives of the Society. Nominees shall be members of the Midland Section. Nominations should include a history of service to the Midland Section, and supporting letters from fellow ACS members.

Outstanding Achievement in the Promotion of Diversity in Chemistry, Related Sciences and Engineering
This award is presented biannually to a person or group residing in Midland, Bay, Saginaw, Isabella or Gratiot County for outstanding achievement in enhancing the participation of underrepresented groups in the study of chemistry, related sciences and engineering. Members of the Midland Section Minority Affairs Committee are ineligible to receive this award.

Outstanding Chemical Technician
The Section presents an annual Outstanding Chemical Technician Award to an individual who has demonstrated an extremely high degree of professionalism as a chemical technician. Nominees must have worked for five years as a chemical technician or related field and whose primary job includes conducting experimentation or correlating information to help solve chemical problems or discover new chemical knowledge. Nominees must have successfully completed a two-year post-high school level chemistry curriculum leading to an Associate Degree, the equivalent course in a Baccalaureate Program, or equivalent experience. Chemical technicians do not need to be an ACS member to be eligible for this award. Nominations should include outside affiliations. Request the National ACS nomination form from the Awards Committee Chair to nominate in this category.

Outstanding Chemistry Students
The Awards Committee also recognizes outstanding chemistry students at the high school and collegiate levels. Those students should be selected by the respective departments and their names forwarded to the Awards Committee using the form attached to this call for nominations. One selection per school and no supporting letters needed.

Recipients of all awards will be selected by the Awards Committee with the exception of the Outstanding Achievement and Promotion of the Chemical Sciences award which is submitted for approval by the Executive Committee. Nominators should write a letter indicating the award and describing the attributes of the candidate. Nomination packets for all awards (except outstanding high school and collegiate awards) must, at
a minimum, consist of a current resume or equivalent, and at least one additional supporting letter included with your nomination all stating why the nominee is deserving of the award. Specific examples should be given in areas such as professional involvement/growth, contributions to industry, and outside affiliations. It is highly recommended that the nomination include a publications and patent list where applicable. Additional letters of support can come from students, parents, community members, and/or administrators. Nominations not meeting the minimum requirements and submissions received after the March 29 deadline will not be considered. The deadline for nominations is March 29, 2013. Mail or Fax submissions are acceptable; electronic (e-mail) submissions are preferred. All submissions must be accompanied by the name, position, address and phone number of the nominator.

Award recipients as well as Chemistry Olympiad winners and Fifty/Sixty Year ACS Members will be honored at the 2013 ACS Recognition Dinner on April 23rd.

The Awards Committee greatly appreciates the efforts involved in nominating someone and wishes to thank you for helping to recognize deserving educators in our section. Please pass this information along to anyone involved in our local science programs! For example nominations or more detail on any award, please contact Lauren Huffman.

Electronic submissions are acceptable and preferred, or via U.S. mail to:

Lauren M. Huffman
ACS Awards Committee Chair, Midland Section
The Dow Chemical Company
Michigan Operations
Building 1710, Lab 40
Midland, MI 48674
Phone: (989) 636-7371; Fax: (989) 638-6619
E-mail: lmhuffman@dow.com or awards@midlandacs.org
### Previous Recipients of Midland Section ACS Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elementary Level Science Education</th>
<th>Middle Level Science Education</th>
<th>High School Chemistry Teaching</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993 Lela Wade</td>
<td>1993 Laurie Hepinstall</td>
<td>1990 Gary Ronk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996 Mark Hack Barth</td>
<td>1996 Barbara J. Bibbee</td>
<td>1993 Mary Irons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998 Barbara McGivern</td>
<td>1998 No Recipient</td>
<td>1995 No Recipient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999 John Clark</td>
<td>1999 No Recipient</td>
<td>1996 Sandra Schafer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000 Sue Burtch, Robin Harshman-Rogers, Vicki Richard, Clare Jorgensen</td>
<td>2000 No Recipient</td>
<td>1997 Mary Fredell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003 Leon Katzinger</td>
<td>2003 No Recipient</td>
<td>2000 Steven Kelly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004 Joan Roels</td>
<td>2004 Christine Brillhart</td>
<td>2001 William Stokes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006 Robin Allen</td>
<td>2006 Matthew Miller</td>
<td>2003 No Recipient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008 Rachel Pappas</td>
<td>2008 Mark Koschmann</td>
<td>2005 Pamela Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 No Recipient</td>
<td>2009 Carla Piazza</td>
<td>2006 Daniel Sealy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011 Beth Quimby</td>
<td>2010 Melinda Coyle</td>
<td>2007 No Recipient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 No Recipient</td>
<td>2011 Jennifer Lenon</td>
<td>2008 No Recipient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2012 Jayme Swanson</td>
<td>2009 Nancy Vossen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2010 Sandra Schafer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2011 David Allan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2012 David Bruessow</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### College Chemistry Teaching

| 1989 Joan Sabourin                | 2001 Sandra Smith               |
| 1990 Bob Howell                  | 2002 Margaret Hill              |
| 1991 Robert Kohrman              | 2003 Dale Meier                 |
| 1992 Scott Hill                  | 2004 Katherine Blystone         |
| 1993 Ajit Sharma                 | 2005 Ronald Sharp               |
| 1994 Laura Vosejpka              | 2006 Arthur G. Smith            |
| 1995 George Eastland             | 2007 Cynthia N. Peck            |
| 1996 Martin Spartz               | 2008 No Recipient               |
| 1997 Philip Squattrito           | 2009 No Recipient               |
| 1998 Thomas Delia                | 2010 Anton Jenson               |
| 1999 Steven Keinath              | 2011 No Recipient               |
| 2000 James Hutchison             | 2012 David S. Karpovich         |
**Science Education Volunteer**

1992  Gregg Young  
1993  Peter Bonk  
1994  Peter Moehs  
1995  Gretchen Kohl  
1996  John Blizzard  
1997  Marvin Tegen  
1998  Carlton Beyer  
1999  William Albe  
2000  Karol Childs  
2001  Donald Petersen  
2002  Joan McMahon  
2003  John Blizzard  
2004  Jan Zanyk  
2005  Eldon Graham  
2006  Tom Chamberlin  
2007  Teri Bickmore  
2008  Tim Drier  
2009  Dave Stickles  
2010  Lisa Thackery  
2011  Charles & Barbara Roth  
2012  Estelle Lebeau

**Outstanding Achievement in the Promotion of Diversity in Chemistry, Related Sciences, and Engineering**  
(Awarded every other year)

2002  George Gant, Richard Stringfield  
2004  Smallwood Holoman, Jr.  
2006  Joan Sabourin  
2008  Sandra Parker  
2010  Theophilus Leapheart  
2012  Linneaus Dorman

**Outstanding Chemical Technician**

1997  Connie J. Murphy  
1998  David Stickles  
1999  Ronald L. Good  
2000  Kurt A. Bell  
2001  Gordon R. Roof  
2002  Cynthia J. Gould  
2003  Robert Krystosek  
2004  Sherry Allen  
2005  Bill Rievert  
2006  Margo McIvor  
2007  Debbie Bailey  
2008  Sue Perz  
2009  Diana Deese  
2010  No Recipient-Spring Award  
2011  Amy Tesolin-Gee  
2012  Amber Wallace

**Outstanding Achievement and Promotion of the Chemical Sciences**

1976  Dr. Turner Alfrey, Jr.  
1977  Dr. Etcyl H. Blair  
1978  Dr. David C. Young  
1979  Dr. Vernon A. Stenger  
1980  Dr. Daniel R. Stull  
1981  Dr. Bob A. Howell  
1982  Dr. Wendell L. Dilling  
1983  Dr. Donald R. Weyenberg  
1984  Dr. Edwin P. Plueddemann  
1985  Dr. Raymond P. Boyer  
1986  Stanley P. Klesney  
1987  Dr. Warren B. Crummett  
1988  Dr. A. Lee Smith  
1989  Dr. Do Ik Lee  
1990  Dr. Joseph E. Dunbar  
1991  Dr. Thomas H. Lane  
1992  Dr. Donald A. Tomalia  
1993  Dr. Dale J. Meier  
1994  Dr. Philip T. Delassus  
1995  Dr. Duane B. Priddy  
1996  Dr. Hans G. Elias  
1997  Dr. Ludo K. Frevel  
1998  Dr. Patrick B. Smith  
1999  Dr. David E. Henton  
2000  Dr. Steven J. Martin  
2001  Dr. Edwin C. Steiner  
2002  Dr. Thomas J. Delia  
2003  Dr. Robert M. Nowak  
2004  Herbert D. (Ted) Doan  
2005  Dr. Michael J. Owen  
2006  Dr. Robert E. Kohman  
2007  Dr. Petar R. Dvornic  
2008  Dr. Jack Kruiper  
2009  No Recipient  
2010  No Recipient-Spring Awards  
2011  Dr. James Falender  
2012  No Recipient
### Outstanding Service to the American Chemical Society

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Dr. David C. Young</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Dr. Linneaus C. Dorman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Dr. Donald R. Petersen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Dr. Wendell L. Dilling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Dr. Bob A. Howell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Eldon L. Graham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Gretchen S. Kohl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Fran K. Voci</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Dr. Thomas H. Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Vicky S. Cobb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Dr. Theodore E. Tabor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Dr. Peter &amp; Dr. Patricia Dreyfuss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Dr. George W. Eastland, Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Joan Sabourin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>John Blizzard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Dr. Steve Keinath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Ann Birch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Dr. Philip Squattrito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>David L. Stickles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Connie Murphy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>No Recipient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>No Recipient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>No Recipient-Spring Awards</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Thomas H. Lane Science Education Award

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Ian Harrier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>No Recipient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>No Recipient</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Nomination Form for 2013 Outstanding High School/Collegiate Chemistry Student

Dept. Chair or other Nominator: ________________________________________________

Telephone number: _____________________________

Email address (required): _____________________________

School: __________________________________________

******************************************************************************

Student’s name: (Mr./Ms.)_____________________________ (Indicate) (Please print legibly)

Home address: __________________________________________

Telephone number: _____________________________

E-mail address (required): _____________________________

Student’s career/postgraduate plans (if known):

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

Please return this form to the following address no later than March 29, 2013:
Lauren M. Huffman
ACS Awards Committee Chair, Midland Section
The Dow Chemical Company
Michigan Operations
Building 1710, Lab 40
Midland, MI 48674
Phone: (989) 636-7371; Fax: (989) 638-6619
E-mail: lmhuffman@dow.com
ACS National Awards

ACS Award for Achievement in Research for the Teaching and Learning of Chemistry
ACS Award for Affordable Green Chemistry
ACS Award for Computers in Chemical and Pharmaceutical Research
ACS Award for Creative Advances in Environmental Science and Technology
ACS Award for Creative Invention
ACS Award for Creative Research and Applications of Iodine Chemistry
ACS Award for Creative Work in Fluorine Chemistry
ACS Award for Creative Work in Synthetic Organic Chemistry
ACS Award for Distinguished Service in the Advancement of Inorganic Chemistry
ACS Award for Encouraging Disadvantaged Students into Careers in the Chemical Sciences
ACS Award for Encouraging Women into Careers in the Chemical Sciences
ACS Award for Research at an Undergraduate Institution
ACS Award for Team Innovation
ACS Award in Analytical Chemistry
ACS Award in Applied Polymer Science
ACS Award in Chromatography
ACS Award in Colloid and Surface Chemistry
ACS Award in Industrial Chemistry
ACS Award in Inorganic Chemistry
ACS Award in Organometallic Chemistry
ACS Award in Polymer Chemistry
ACS Award in Pure Chemistry
ACS Award in Separations Science and Technology
ACS Award in the Chemistry of Materials
ACS Award in Theoretical Chemistry
Award for Volunteer Service to the American Chemical Society
Roger Adams Award in Organic Chemistry
Arthur W. Adamson Award for Distinguished Service in the Advancement of Surface Chemistry
Alfred Bader Award in Bioinorganic or Bioorganic Chemistry
Earle B. Barnes Award for Leadership in Chemical Research Management
Ronald Breslow Award for Achievement in Biomimetic Chemistry
Herbert C. Brown Award for Creative Research in Synthetic Methods
James Bryant Conant Award in High School Chemistry Teaching
Arthur C. Cope Award (Organic Chemistry)
Arthur C. Cope Scholar Awards
Elias J. Corey Award for Outstanding Original Contribution in Organic Synthesis by a Young Investigator
F. Albert Cotton Award in Synthetic Inorganic Chemistry
Peter Debye Award in Physical Chemistry
Frank H. Field and Joe L. Franklin Award for Outstanding Achievement in Mass Spectrometry
Francis P. Garvan - John M. Olin Medal (service to chemistry by women chemists)
James T. Grady - James H. Stack Award for Interpreting Chemistry for the Public
Ernest Guenther Award in the Chemistry of Natural Products
E. B. Hershberg Award for Important Discoveries in Medicinally Active Substances
Joel Henry Hildebrand Award in the Theoretical and Experimental Chemistry of Liquids
Ipatieff Prize
Ralph F. Hirschmann Award in Peptide Chemistry
E. V. Murphree Award in Industrial and Engineering Chemistry
Nobel Laureate Signature Award for Graduate Education in Chemistry
James Flack Norris Award in Physical Organic Chemistry
George A. Olah Award in Hydrocarbon or Petroleum Chemistry
George C. Pimentel Award in Chemical Education
Priestley Medal (distinguished services to chemistry)
Glenn T. Seaborg Award for Nuclear Chemistry
Gabor A. Somorjai Award for Creative Research in Catalysis
E. Bright Wilson Award in Spectroscopy
The Ahmed Zewail Award in Ultrafast Science and Technology
Recognizing our Heroes of Chemistry

Criteria and deadlines for the National ACS awards and other grants and considerations can be found at: http://webapps.acs.org/findawards/detail.jsp?ContentId=CNBP_022409

Midland Section to Host 44th ACS Central Regional Meeting (CERM), May 2013
Phil Squattrito, Meeting Chair

The Midland Section will host the 44th ACS Central Regional Meeting, May 15-17, 2013, on the campus of Central Michigan University. The general theme of the meeting is Building Blocks for a Sustainable Future. Technical sessions on various aspects of chemistry related to sustainability as well as general sessions in the traditional areas of chemistry and chemical education are planned.

A series of plenary sessions will feature prominent speakers on topics of global significance. Confirmed plenary speakers include Dr. Martine Vermeulen, retired Global Manager of Product Safety & Regulatory Compliance at Dow Corning, and Dr. Kishor Wasan, Professor and Associate Dean of Research at the University of British Columbia. There will also be a special symposium sponsored by Dow Corning celebrating the 150th anniversary of the discovery of organosilicon compounds. Featured events of the meeting include a vendor exposition, a combined exhibition of paintings & photographs related to the history of the chemical industry in mid-Michigan, and the Central Region awards banquet, featuring remarks by Dr. Mary Kirchhoff, ACS Director of Education.

Registration and abstract submission are now open! Visit our web page for links (http://2013cerm.sites.acs.org/). All Midland Section members are invited to submit abstracts and attend the meeting. Volunteers to help with planning/hosting the meeting are still welcome as well. Please contact Phil Squattrito (p.squattrito@cmich.edu or 989-774-4407) to volunteer, or for more information.
Bob Howell Receives 2012 NATAS Award for Outstanding Achievement

Lauren Johnson, CMU Chemistry Department

Professor Bob A. Howell of Central Michigan University is the 2012 recipient of the North American Thermal Analysis Society (NATAS) award for outstanding achievement. This award recognizes distinguished achievement in the field of thermal analysis of generally wide interest and impact. This award represents the highest honor bestowed by the Society.

Professor Howell has long been active in the field of thermal analysis. His many contributions include demonstration of a clear understanding of the mode of degradation of vinylidene chloride barrier polymers (he is a recognized expert in this area) and the detection of the key event responsible for the degradation of general purpose polystyrene. The latter is particularly noteworthy. The thermal degradation of polystyrene has been variously studied over the years. However, most studies were carried out as a function of increasing temperature or at high temperature (> 300°C). As a consequence, multiple products of decomposition and modes of degradation have been reported. Professor Howell was able to show that at 280°C polystyrene undergoes smooth degradation to evolve only styrene monomer. This reflects initial cleavage of a head-to-head unit present in the polymer mainchain as a consequence of polymerization termination by radical coupling. The macro radicals produced by this cleavage simply unzip to evolve styrene monomer. At high temperatures the decomposition is more complex – random chain scission, intramolecular chain transfer, and other processes occur so that more complex product mixtures (dimers, trimers, etc.) are formed. This observation now forms the basis for a method of recycling polystyrene.

Howell joined the faculty of the Department of Chemistry at Central Michigan University (CMU) in 1976. His research interests have included polymer-supported organoplatinum antitumor agents, permeation of gases in barrier plastic packaging, degradation/stabilization of vinylidene chloride copolymers, nitroxyl-mediated radical polymerization, stability of styrene polymers, development of polymer additives, and thermal methods of analysis. A current research focus is the development of non-halogen flame retardants based on renewable biosources.

Professor Howell was instrumental in the founding of the polymer science program at CMU and also was almost single-handedly responsible for the establishment of the thermal analysis lab at CMU. He has trained dozens of students, many of whom have gone on to prominent careers. His students have regularly presented papers at prominent professional meetings. Most of his publications contain students as coauthors.

Howell’s work has been widely recognized. He is Fellow of both NATAS and the American Chemical Society (ACS). He has served both as President of NATAS and as Chair of the Midland Section ACS. He is currently a
member of the NATAS Executive Board and a Councilor of the Midland Section ACS. He is also a member of several prominent ACS committees at the national level.

MNI Announces 2013 TAVP Program and Visit Dates

Steve Keinath, Director and TAVP Program Coordinator

The Michigan Molecular Institute (MNI) is pleased to announce that Prof. Kenneth Shull from Northwestern University will be the 2013 Turner Alfrey Visiting Professor (TAVP). His Northwestern website (http://shullgroup.northwestern.edu) will give you a feel for his current R&D activities and interests, since the specific details about Prof. Shull’s TAVP course lecture topic and various stand-alone seminar topics aren’t in hand yet.

Prof. Shull will be in residence at MNI from Monday, June 17th, through Wednesday, June 26th. The first week (June 17-21) will be the week in which he will give a series of five afternoon course lectures, plus make quick visits to MSU and SVSU, and participate in an opening reception at MNI, and a joint technical society evening dinner meeting (June 19). The second week (June 24-26) will be dedicated to full-day site visits to Dow, Dow Corning, and CMU. Please mark your calendars with the 2013 TAVP visit dates now, and stay tuned as more information becomes available.

Upcoming Dates, Events, and Other Updates

- January 25 (5:30-7:30 PM) – YCC January Networking Event, Midland Brewing Company. Contact Heather Spinney (haspinney@dow.com) for questions.
- February 4 (7:00-9:00 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via conference call at phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#.
- February 21 (6:00-9:00 PM) – Engineers Week Dinner/Program, Bavarian Inn Conference Center, Frankenmuth. Contact Bernard Santavy (810-635-7948) for tickets, by Feb. 18. For more information, or to purchase tickets online (http://www.midmichigansae.org/index.shtml).
- March 4 (7:00-9:00 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via conference call at phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#.
- March 25 (7:00-9:00 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via conference call at phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#.
- March 29 – Deadline for 2013 Science Teaching, Volunteer, Education, and Chemical Sciences Awards nominations. Contact Lauren Huffman (lmhuffman@dow.com), Awards Committee Chair, for questions.
- April 23 (Evening, specific time TBD) – Midland Section ACS Spring Science Awards Banquet, Great Hall Banquet and Convention Center, Midland. Contact Lauren Huffman (lmhuffman@dow.com), Awards Committee Chair, for questions.
- May 6 (7:00-9:00 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via conference call at phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#.
- May 15-17 (Wednesday-Friday) – 44th ACS Central Regional Meeting (CERM) (http://2013cerm.sites.acs.org/), Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI. For more information, contact the 44th CERM Meeting Chair, Phil Squattrito, at p.squattrito@cmich.edu or by phone at 989-774-4407.
- June 3 (7:00-9:00 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via conference call at phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#.
- June 17-21 (3:00-6:00 PM, each day) – 2013 TAVP course lectures, featuring Prof. Kenneth Shull of Northwestern University, MMI Auditorium, Midland. Contact Steve Keinath (keinath@mmi.org) for questions.
- June 19 (6:30-9:00 PM) – TAVP joint technical society dinner meeting, lecturer Prof. Kenneth Shull of Northwestern University, venue TBD. Contact Steve Keinath (keinath@mmi.org) for questions.