

## **VI-A-President-SciX 2017**

### **President's Report – Society for Applied Spectroscopy Fall 2017**

As a Society in its 59<sup>th</sup> year, we have demonstrated the staying power to maintain the interest of our membership while continuing our mission: 'to advance and disseminate knowledge and information concerning the art and science of spectroscopy, and other allied sciences, to advance the professional standing and growth of the Society and its members, to coordinate cooperative endeavors of its individual members and sections, and to promote and maintain a close bond among its members.'. In doing so we rely heavily on our volunteers who share the passion to see the Society be successful in hopes that others join in on the experience and continue the tradition. Many thanks to everyone who has volunteered to help the society, your efforts are greatly appreciated.

One of the challenges that SAS continues to face is maintaining and growing its membership. We are continuing to reach out to members that have not renewed and try to recruit new members at conferences such as ICAVS and PittCon. We need to do better and I believe a grass roots effort and targeting other like-minded societies and conferences (LIBS, ICORS, Winter Plasma Conference, SPIE, etc.) will be the best path forward. So, I ask everyone to try and recruit one new member to join SAS. We need to increase our exposure and marketing of the Society as Past President Ellen Miseo pushed for. At PittCon this year, we created a new position of Marketing Chair and Andrew Whitley has taken on this role. Andrew has already been very active and in leading new marketing ideas he is working directly with the Membership, Website, Newsletter, and Publicity committees to coordinate efforts.

The Journal remains the number one reason why people are members of SAS. You may have noticed the extra-large issues of *Applied Spectroscopy* in recent months. Mike Blades has been doing great work to clear the backlog of manuscripts and working with SAGE which will help to reduce the time to print for new submissions. Many thanks to Peter Griffiths for his years of service on the Journal and welcome to Sergei Kazarian as the Editor.

Many thanks to President elect, Mike Carrabba, who spent many hours doing a rewrite of the By-Laws and Constitution. These changes have made the documents much easier to follow and by replacing the Constitution with Policy and Procedures will enable us to be more efficient moving forward.

I'd like to Congratulate: Rob Lascola as being elected as President for 2019 and thank him for his efforts as Sectional Coordinator; Ian Lewis as Secretary; Governing Board delegates Laura Bush, Rina Dukor, Jay Kitt, Isao Noda, and Alex Scheeline; and Student Representative Megan Schmale. Many thanks to Gloria Story for her years of service as Secretary. Gloria, you have a true love and passion for the Society and we hope to see you in other roles.

The new Certification program has officially kicked off this year and we have ushered in our first group of Certified Spectroscopists. We look to forward seeing this program grow and be a valuable benefit for SAS members, while also providing some revenue to the Society and it may help attract new members.

At this SciX meeting, we are also kicking of the crowd funding campaign that Diane Parry initiated. This is another great benefit for members who want to get their ideas funded and hopefully lead to something bigger. While it is just getting started, this type of initiative will help to keep SAS poised to be at the leading edge of new ideas and may provide financial benefits as it catches on.

Next year, 2018 will be the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of SAS and arrangements are already in the works to make this a big celebration. This will be a great opportunity for SAS to re-emerge as THE SOCIETY for Spectroscopists.

Finally, I'd like to thank the SAS office, Bonnie and Stephanie, the Executive Committee and all the volunteers who have been putting in their time and effort.

Respectfully,

Greg Klunder