

## August, 2009

## JOHN-DAVID MCELDERRY IS ELECTED NEXT SAS STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE



SAS is delighted to announce that John-David McElderry of the University of Michigan was elected to be the next SAS Student Representative. He received a BS degree in chemistry from Brigham Young University in Provo, UT in 2007. While at BYU, he performed research with Dr. Steven Goates studying various forms of high pressure chromatography using laser induced fluorescence to probe analyte flow. In the summer of 2007, after graduation from BYU, he completed an internship at W. L. Gore and Assoc. at their biomedical implant laboratories in Flagstaff, AZ. While there, he developed methods for detecting leachates from various plastics when in contact with tissue and body fluid, including the development of a model of the kinetics of small molecules leaching from these materials.



John is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Michigan studying with Dr. Michael Morris. His research is involved in constructing and modifying Raman microprobes with the purpose of measuring bone mineralization. Thus far, he has validated a metric for bone crystallinity using Raman spectroscopy and found evidence for an apatitic bone mineral precursor composed of crystalline phosphate. These projects have yet to be published. He has attended several conferences including SPEC 2008 in Brazil. He is projected to graduate in 2012.

## **OBITUARY - NORMAN B. COLTHUP**

NORMAN B. COLTHUP, 84, SAS Honorary Member, died Tuesday, June 9, 2009. Graduating from New Canaan High School and Antioch College in Ohio, Norman began his scientific career as a scientific assistant in the infrared group at American Cyanamid. Eventually becoming a principal research scientist, his awards included an Honorary Doctor of Science degree from Fisk University, the Williams-Wright Award for "outstanding contributions to the field of industrial infrared spectroscopy" and the Maurice Hasler Award for "outstanding contributions to infrared spectroscopy which have resulted in significant applications of broad utility." Norman's major publications included the Colthup Chart, which identified infrared group frequencies, and the textbooks *Introduction to Infrared and Raman Spectroscopy* and *The Handbook of Infrared and Raman Characteristic Frequencies of Organic Molecules*.

## MAY HISTORICAL EVENTS IN SPECTROSCOPY by Leopold May, Catholic University

**June 18-22, 1962.** First National Meeting of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy, the International Conference on Spectroscopy, 1962, and the Xth Colloquium Spectroscopium Internationale was held at College Park, MD.

**July 31, 1825.** August Beer, who discovered that absorption of light is related to amount and length of absorbing material (Beer's Law), was born on this date.

Comments to butcherATemail.wcu.edu