

The SAS Spectrum Newsletter

The Newsletter of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy



March 2011

AWARDS AND CALLS FOR NOMINATIONS

NYSAS SELECTED 2011 GOLD MEDAL AWARD WINNER by Xujin Lu

The Gold Medal Award was established in 1952 by the New York Society for Applied Spectroscopy (the later New York Section of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy) to recognize scientists who make outstanding contributions to the field of Applied Spectroscopy. Since its establishment, fifty-nine recipients have been honored with this prestigious award. For the year of 2011, the NYSAS award committee has selected Dr. Gary Blanchard as the sixtieth winner.



Gary J. Blanchard, currently a professor in the Department of Chemistry at Michigan State University, has been recognized by peers as an expert and authority in ultrafast spectroscopy and vibronic relaxation. His early contributions to the field involved his groundbreaking work in ultrafast spectroscopy, where he showed conclusively that the Stokes shift is due to vibrational relaxation rather than to solvent reorganization. Through his career he combined his knowledge in optical spectroscopy with materials design and synthesis to use a wide array of

spectroscopic techniques to study novel materials. He used his background in time-resolved fluorescence spectroscopy and extended his skills to include the other spectroscopic tools, as well as electrochemistry, to study layered materials and polymers. His contribution has been in elucidating structure-function relations, which includes the relaxation processes for which he has established leadership.

Receiving his PhD degree at the University of Wisconsin – Madison under the guidance of Professor Mary Wirth in 1985, Blanchard focused his thesis research on the rotational diffusion dynamics of cresyl violet in a range of solvent systems and on the development of high sensitivity pump-probe spectroscopic methods. In September 1985 he joined Bell Communications Research (Bellcore) in Red Bank, NJ, where he worked on environmental and contaminants research, transient, state-dependent solvation phenomena, photonic switching and nonlinear optics in conjugated polymers.

As a faculty at Michigan State University since 1991, Blanchard's colleagues call him an outstanding spectroscopist who brings a unique synergy to his functions in research and teaching. He established a research program that focused on interfacial science and the development of spectroscopic methods for the characterization and detection of interfacial species at the sub-monolayer level. Work in this area has involved the development of synthetic strategies for the growth of individual molecular layers at interfaces as well as the application of linear and nonlinear spectroscopies to the characterization of interfaces. The Blanchard research group has also been active in solution phase self-assembly processes ranging from understanding the molecular processes leading to crystallization, through work on micelles and the role of charge compensation in those structures, to work on understanding the processes that

give rise to structural heterogeneity in unilamellar vesicles comprised of phospholipids and sterols. His research, which is extensively supported by the National Science Foundation, U.S. Department of Energy, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, The Petroleum Research Fund, and a variety of private organizations, has resulted in more than 150 publications that are widely cited in the literature. Blanchard has presented more than 240 talks at national and international meetings and universities and has graduated 24 PhD and 6 MS students.

The Gold Medal Award will be presented to Blanchard at a special award symposium at the Eastern Analytical Symposium in Summerset, NJ in November.

COBLENTZ 2011 CRAVER AWARD: MICHAEL W. GEORGE

The Coblenz Society is pleased to announce that **Professor Michael W. George**, Professor of Chemistry, University of Nottingham, UK, has been selected as the recipient of the 2011 Craver Award. In 2006 The Coblenz Society created an award to recognize the efforts of young professional spectroscopists that have made significant contributions in applied analytical vibrational spectroscopy. The Society has named this award for Clara D. Craver in recognition of her pioneering efforts in promoting the practice of infrared vibrational spectroscopy and her many years of service to the Coblenz Society. Further, the Craver Award is the Society's complement of its prestigious Coblenz Award, which recognizes young spectroscopists for efforts in fundamental aspects of vibrational spectroscopy. The Craver Award is presented to Professor George in recognition of his recent work in the development and application of fast time-resolved infrared spectroscopy for the characterization of excited states and the detection of short-lived intermediates and the elucidation of reaction mechanisms.

Professor George is a Professor of Chemistry in the School of Chemistry at The University of Nottingham. He received his BSc (1987) and PhD (1990) from The University of Nottingham and, following a Postdoctoral Fellowship at KAST with Professor Hiro-o Hamaguchi in Japan, he was appointed as an Experimental Officer at Nottingham. He was subsequently promoted to Lecturer, Reader, and Professor. His research interests combine photochemistry, fast infrared spectroscopy, and instrument development spanning inorganic reaction mechanisms, organometallic alkane and noble gas complexes, and, more recently, biological molecules. Together with colleagues at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, he has developed two Research Council funded UK Facilities for ultrafast time-resolved spectroscopy (PIRATE and ULTRA), which are advancing understanding of reaction mechanisms. Professor George is active in the UK Infrared and Raman Discussion Group (IRDG), which has been promoting the use of vibrational spectroscopy in the UK and beyond for nearly 60 years.

The Craver Award will be presented at the 2011 FACSS Conference to be held in Reno, Nevada, October 2-6, at the Grand Sierra Resort. Professor George will present the Coblenz Society's Craver Award Plenary Lecture in Applied Vibrational Spectroscopy, and a separate half-day award symposium of six invited presentations will be held following his lecture at this conference.

COBLENTZ 2012 CRAVER AWARD: CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Coblenz Society is currently accepting nominations for the **2012 Craver Award**. This award is presented annually to an outstanding young molecular spectroscopist whose efforts are in the area of applied analytical vibrational spectroscopy. The candidate must be under the age of 45 on January 1st of the year of the award. The work may include any aspect of (near-, mid-, or far-infrared) IR, THz, or Raman spectroscopy in applied analytical vibrational spectroscopy. Nominees are welcome from academic, government, or industrial research. The Craver award is accompanied by an honorarium, an engraved award, and a travel allowance. Candidates will be considered from the time of initial nomination until the age of eligibility is exceeded. Annual updates of candidate files are encouraged and

will be solicited from the nomination source by the Award's committee chair. Nominations for 2012 must include a detailed description of the nominee's accomplishments, curriculum vitae or résumé, and a minimum of three supporting letters. Yearly nominations close on July 31 of the preceding year (2012 nominations will be accepted until July 31, 2011). The Craver award is presented annually at the FACSS meeting, at which the awardee will present a plenary lecture. In addition, a separate half-day award symposium honoring the award recipient and highlighting awardee interests will be held at the same FACSS meeting. Please submit nominations to the 2012 award committee chair, Dr. Brandye Smith-Goettler, Merck and Co., Inc., WP78-110, PO Box 4, West Point, PA 19486-0004, USA; Tel: (215) 652-5487; e-mail: brandyemichelle_smithgoettler@merck.com.

COBLENTZ STUDENT AWARDS IN VIBRATIONAL SPECTROSCOPY AND THE WILLIAM G. FATELEY STUDENT AWARD: CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Deadline: 1 May 2011. The Coblentz Society has for many years encouraged young scientists to pursue studies in spectroscopy by seeking nominations of outstanding students for the **Coblentz Student Awards**. The awardees receive a copy of the Society's Desk Book, a certificate, and a year's membership in the Society. Their names and the names of their faculty advisors will appear in the Society's Newsletter (published in *Applied Spectroscopy* and available from the Coblentz Society and SAS websites). All awardees who attend FACSS in Reno will receive their award in person at a presentation during the poster session on Sunday evening by the Coblentz Society's president. Those students who do not attend FACSS will receive their award and the Society's Desk Book by mail.

The three leading students selected by the Coblentz Award committee will also qualify for consideration for the William G. Fateley student award that includes an oral presentation by the winner at FACSS, a plaque, and a prize of \$1000 to help defray their travel costs to FACSS in Reno, October 2011.

Nominations should be received no later than May 1, 2011. Awards will be announced in June 2011. Nominations may be sent via e-mail to Professor Brian Marquardt at marquardt@apl.washington.edu, or by regular mail, marked COBLENTZ STUDENT AWARD, to his address: Professor Brian J. Marquardt, Applied Physics Laboratory, University of Washington, 1013 NE 40th Street, Box 355640, Seattle, WA 98105 -6698.

Graduate or undergraduate students who have shown excellence in vibrational spectroscopy and/or coursework including vibrational spectroscopy may be nominated. The nominator must be a member of the Coblentz Society (to become a member contact Mark Druy at druy@psicorp.com).

The requirements for a complete nomination are:

- (1) Curriculum Vita for the nominee. This should include contact information (e-mail, telephone and mailing address) for the student that will be valid through August 2011.
- (2) A biographical statement suitable for including in an announcement of the award, using a format similar to that used for the FACSS Student Award.
- (3) One letter of nomination from an advisor or research director of the student.
- (4) One additional letter of recommendation.
- (5) Abstract for a poster or oral presentation that might be presented at FACSS 2011.

The top three awardees will be selected for consideration for the William G. Fateley Student Award.

All awardees will be featured with a provided photograph and a short bio in the FACSS Final program at Reno. All awardees who attend FACSS in Reno will receive their award in person at a presentation during the poster session on Sunday evening by the current Coblentz Society president, Professor Michael Myrick.

William G. Fateley Student Award. The family and former group members of William G. Fateley, in conjunction with The Coblenz Society and The Society for Applied Spectroscopy, wish to announce the formation of a Student Award to honor the career and life of William G. Fateley. The yearly award will consist of a \$1000 prize to the selected student(s). All winners will be recognized and invited to present their research results at an appropriate professional conference (e.g., FACSS, Pittcon).

Although Bill Fateley passed away in 2009, he is still remembered as a larger-than-life figure in the spectroscopy community. Bill was highly regarded for his scientific contributions, but also loved by many people for his humor, his generosity, and for never taking himself too seriously (and some may have thought he was a bit of an ornery cuss, and Bill was ok with that, too). At Bill's memorial service at Kansas State University, many speakers spoke of Bill's quick wit and his unmistakable laugh. Nearly everyone had examples of how he had provided personal support. Whether it was a material gift (a beautiful handmade clock) or a simple positive word when one was needed, Bill was always helping and encouraging people throughout his life. Perhaps Bill's biggest impact was his contributions to the social fraternity of international spectroscopy in the pre-LinkedIn, pre-Facebook world. His long years of service to Pittcon, serving as Conference President in 1971, and to the Society for Applied Spectroscopy, serving as Editor of Applied Spectroscopy for 20 years, were a benefit to us all.

Another lasting component of Bill's legacy was his encouragement for students to attend professional conferences and meet their peers. He made it a goal to introduce young scientists to the "people" in the field and to get them personally involved. Fostering this interaction was important to Bill, perhaps as much as it was for the Science. His efforts included sending his students to many international conferences. If need be, he even went as far as to bring the social interaction center (disguised as a mobile spectroscopy lab) directly to the conference. Bill's commitment to encouraging students to attend conferences, meet and interact with their colleagues, and contribute to the field of Spectroscopy has produced a whole new generation of spectroscopists. His efforts also have greatly enriched the groups and societies that Bill championed so strongly. This is the legacy that we hope to continue with the establishment of this award.

The William G. Fateley Student Award is administered by The Coblenz Society. Bill was a 1965 Coblenz Award Winner and thus the Coblenz Society is well suited to remember Bill's scientific contributions. The Society will accept nominations for the Student award, review the candidates, and forward the top three nominees on to the Fateley Representative Committee. This committee will select the student that most closely embodies the spirit of Bill's desire to promote the science and society of spectroscopy. The 2nd annual award will be presented at FACSS 2011 in Reno, NV.

FACSS INNOVATION AWARDS (NEW) – to be given at FACSS 2011

FACSS Innovation Awards will be given for the most innovative and outstanding new research advancements debuted orally at FACSS.

All program areas are included. Only research findings presented for the first time in the public domain qualify for entry (work based on submitted papers not yet published electronically or in print qualifies, too). **Papers submitted for FACSS 2011 will be considered for these awards – authors can check the box for their papers to be entered.** Finalists will be selected for presentations at FACSS 2011 in special award sessions. Award winners will be selected after the award sessions are concluded.

Each award includes:

- A personal cash prize of \$1500
- A plaque
- Publicity

FACSS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

The FACSS Governing Board may present a Distinguished Service Award to an individual who has demonstrated exceptional, long-term service to the FACSS organization. Typically, that person will have served with excellence in many different capacities and will have contributed to the continuing success of FACSS through consistent dedication and sacrifice.

TOMAS HIRSCHFELD AND FACSS STUDENT AWARDS: CALL FOR APPLICATIONS 2011

The Tomas Hirschfeld Scholar(s) and the FACSS Student Awards recognize the most outstanding papers submitted to FACSS by a graduate student. Recipients will receive financial support to help them attend the FACSS Conference. In order to have your presentation considered for a Tomas Hirschfeld Scholar Award or FACSS Student Award, students should submit their abstract using the FACSS website submission form and indicate on the dropdown menu on the form their interest in these awards.

The submission process involves completing this form and submitting **three** sets of the following:

- a) this form;
- b) 250-word abstract of the proposed presentation for the FACSS conference;
- c) two letters of nomination, one by the student's mentor. An explanation of the inventive contributions by the student to the work should be given. Creativity was a primary characteristic of Tomas's work and thus should be a characteristic of the awardee.
- d) a copy of the candidate's résumé;
- e) a copy of the candidate's graduate transcript;
- f) copies of reprints and/or preprints of research accomplished.

The recipients will be included in a session highlighting young scientists and their work.

Name of Candidate: _____

University: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Deadline: April 30, 2011. Send (do not fax) materials to:

FACSS, PO Box 24379, Santa Fe, NM 87502

Shipping Address for Fed-Ex or UPS: FACSS, 2019 Galisteo Street, Bldg I-1, Santa Fe, NM 87505

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE SOCIETY FOR APPLIED SPECTROSCOPY

Applied Spectroscopy journal Editor-in-Chief Peter R. Griffiths recently communicated his intent to step down as journal editor in June 2012. The Publications and Executive Committees of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy are now seeking qualified applicants for the position of Editor-in-Chief of Applied Spectroscopy. The new editor will take over editorial operations in July 2012, being responsible for the content of the journal starting with the September 2012 issue. In addition to being a top scientist in the field of spectroscopy, the individual must be a member in good standing of the Society and must have served at least two years in one of the following capacities or one year each in two of the following capacities: delegate to the Governing Board, regional/technical section officer, journal editorial board member, and/or chair of a Society committee.

The position is a 3-year term and the Editor-in-Chief is responsible for the regular monthly publication of Applied Spectroscopy and serves as a non-voting member of the Society Executive Committee.

If you would like to submit a name for consideration, please email it with supporting documentation to: Dr. Bruce Chase, Chair of the SAS Publications Committee at exdir@s-a-s.org; or mail it to him c/o The Society for Applied Spectroscopy, 5320 Spectrum Drive, Suite C, Frederick, MD 21703. The deadline for receipt of applications or nominations is July 15, 2011.

Colloquium Spectroscopicum Internationale XXXVII in Brazil

August 28 - September 2, 2011

Deadline for Early Registration and
Submission of Abstracts: April 30, 2011

You will meet the most renowned scientists from the following areas:

- ▶ Atomic plasma spectrometry (ICP, GD, AAS, etc.)
- ▶ Molecular spectrometry (UV-Vis, NMR, Raman, IR, etc.)
- ▶ X-ray spectrometry (XRF, XRD, XANES, PIXE, etc.)
- ▶ Hyphenated techniques
- ▶ Laser spectroscopy
- ▶ Imaging techniques
- ▶ Nuclear techniques (Mössbauer spectroscopy, Gamma spectroscopy, NAA)
- ▶ Material sciences (micro, surface and interface analysis)
- ▶ Environmental and geochemical analysis
- ▶ Archaeometry and cultural heritage
- ▶ Biological applications
- ▶ Organic and inorganic mass spectrometry (TIMS, MALDI, LC-MS, GC-MS)
- ▶ Food analysis
- ▶ Clinical and pharmaceutical analysis
- ▶ Speciation analysis
- ▶ Mass spectrometry in post-genomics and proteomics
- ▶ Miniaturisation and nanotechnology
- ▶ Fuels and biofuels

Contact:

csi37@csixxxvii.org - www.csixxxvii.org

Rio de Janeiro



Location

Armação de Búzios is located just a 3 hour drive from Rio de Janeiro. In winter, the weather is mostly sunny and dry, with an average temperature of 25 degrees Celsius.

Food and Lodging

The city offers a wide range of restaurants and hotels for all tastes and budgets, in addition to the Atlântico Búzios Hotel, the site of the conference.

Transfer

Transfer services will be offered from and to Rio de Janeiro International Airport.

Social Programs

A full Social Program will be organized for accompanying persons, such as beach buggy tours and boat rides as well as a visit to the City of Rio de Janeiro.

Búzios

