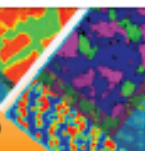


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## SAS Student Ambassador at the Winter Conference on Plasma Spectrochemistry 2014

Olga Borovinskaya, a Ph.D. student from the group of Trace Element and Micro Analysis at ETH Zürich, visited this year's Winter Conference on Plasma Spectrochemistry as a SAS Student Ambassador. Her trip was sponsored by the SAS Student Ambassador Program by a \$500 award, which was recently launched to promote society growth and to inspire new in-the-field scientists to join the organization.



*Photo of the sunrise from the hotel room in Amelia Island*

The Conference was held in a lovely place in Florida called Amelia Island from January 6–11, 2014. Even though the weather at that time was "freezing" for Florida, the atmosphere of the meeting was warm enough to make all the participants forget about the weather conditions. Despite the turmoil in many U.S. airports and 1000s of cancelled flights, more than 500 participants were able to make it to Amelia Island. The conference was very interesting and diverse, consisting of five plenary and more than 30 invited lectures, 75 oral and 180 poster contributions, and funny heritage lectures, which took place in the evenings. This conference also offered approximately 80 different short courses, where freshmen, as well as experienced scientists, always learn something new in the field of atomic spectroscopy. The conference schedule was very tight and breaks were too short to meet people. However, the evening activities organized by PerkinElmer, Thermo Scientific, Agilent, and the conference itself were propitious opportunities for SAS promotion among young scientists. I had a chance to talk to scientists from Austria, Sweden, Germany, Belgium, Spain, Australia, China, Japan, Canada, and the USA in an informal atmosphere while distributing SAS information brochures. I pointed out the benefits of joining the SAS, especially for students, which include support by the Society through its education, career advancement, and student award sponsorship programs, and coverage of travel costs to

scientific meetings. Moreover, the use of the online employment platform and the SAS global Certified Professional Directory allow fellow scientists to share valuable information and to search for potential employment. As a non-profit organization, SAS offers support and many services for a very fair price. This last fact attracted the attention of many students, who promised to learn more about SAS when they are back home. I really enjoyed these interactions and the conference itself and I hope that the number of SAS members will expand further in the near future.

*Olga Borovinskaya is a PhD student from the group of Trace Element and Micro Analysis at ETH Zürich*

## Members Are Our Best Resource

As an SAS member, you know all too well the benefits of being part of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy. One of the best ways to grow your professional society is by promoting its benefits to other scientists in the field. Many of our members regularly present their work at meetings, conferences, and short courses or are teaching the future of the field in college classrooms all over the world. What better way to spread the word about the benefits of SAS membership than by using our SAS Power Point Presentation the next time you are giving a talk or teaching a course. Feel free to download the presentation and help promote SAS – your professional organization! The power point presentation is available on our website at <https://www.s-a-s.org/for-members/Power-Point/>.



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## SAS Seeks Governing Board Delegates

Have you always wanted to have a say in how your professional Society runs? If so, the Society for Applied Spectroscopy wants you to be a delegate to its Governing Board. SAS is seeking qualified individuals who are interested in being two-year delegates to the Society's Governing Board meeting in Reno, Nevada, on September 30, 2014, and at subsequent meetings held in conjunction with SciX, sponsored by the Federation of Analytical Chemistry and Spectroscopy Societies (FACSS). If elected to the position, you will be required to vote on Society business at the meeting.

Qualifications include being a regular member (students are not eligible) in good standing of SAS and having an interest in the well being of the Society. International members are encouraged to apply. Qualified candidates will be voted on by the membership-at-large in July 2014. Five delegates will be elected to serve for a total of two years. You **MUST** be able to attend both Governing Board Meetings held at SciX in 2014 and 2015.

If you are interested in serving your professional society in this way, please submit your name, any relevant qualifications you feel would help the membership at-large determine whether you would be a good delegate, and answers to the following questions: What are the challenges facing SAS and how can we meet these challenges? Please limit your answer to 500 words.

Please send all nominations to [office@s-a-s.org](mailto:office@s-a-s.org) Nominations must be received by April 30, 2014. Please call the Society office at 301-694-8122 if you have any questions.