

SAS SPECTRUM eNEWS

Reminder — SAS-Sponsored Sessions at Pittcon

The SAS is sponsoring four sessions at Pittcon this year. The sessions are:

Women in Spectroscopy: Session 720
March 9th at 1:30 PM on Monday, room 268

International Year of Light (SAS): Session 1030
March 10th at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, room 245

Vibrational Spectroscopy: A 60-Year Celebration of the Coblenz Society: Session 1590
March 11th at 8:30 AM on Wednesday, room 244

Atomic Spectroscopy: Going Strong in the 21st Century: Session 2350
March 12th at 8:30 AM on Thursday, room 263

We encourage all our members to attend these sessions as time allows.

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SAS Student Event — Tuesday March 10, 2015, 8:00 – 10:00 p.m. **(for Students only)**
The Bourbon Cowboy (corner of Bourbon and Bienville)
241 Bourbon Street, New Orleans
Contact Stephanie for more information: 301-674-1458

SAS Post-Doc Profile: Benjamin Manard, Ph.D.

During his free time you can typically find Benjamin Manard on the basketball court where he is readily involved in competitive basketball leagues of all levels. Ben completed his Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry from Georgia Southern University (Statesboro, Georgia) in 2009. Under the supervision of Professor Shannon Davis at GSU, Ben became interested in analytical chemistry research and used techniques such as HPLC and GC-MS to characterize adipic acid. Additionally, he worked with the department's instrumentation supervisor to receive hands-on experience maintaining instruments used in the teaching labs. Ben went on to pursue his PhD in analytical chemistry under Professor R. Kenneth Marcus at Clemson University (Clemson, South Carolina). He worked on two projects: The development of a miniaturized plasma source for mass spectrometry and optical emissions spectroscopy detection, and the utility of an innovative stationary phase for solid phase extraction of proteins from biofluids prior to MALDI-MS.

Ben has been a member of the SAS since 2011, when Mike Carrabba approached him at Pittcon and insisted that he join. He's since attended the PBR brewery tour and wine and cheese event in Milwaukee, Wisconsin (SciX 2013), the student event at Buddy Guy's Legends in Chicago, Illinois (Pittcon 2014), and in Reno, Nevada (SciX 2014). Ben attended the Virginia City bus excursion and the student pub crawl along the Riverwalk district. He feels his membership in the Society has provided numerous benefits on both a personal and professional level. Regarding the former, Ben says "it is wonderful meeting other scientists who are involved in spectroscopy, as attending SAS events brings everyone together and creates the opportunity to exchange ideas".

During his PhD studies, in 2013, Ben was successful in obtaining a position as a Visiting Scientist at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory working on laser ablation studies under the guidance of Richard E. Russo (2013 SAS Fellow). After the completion of his PhD, Ben has recently started a Post-Doctoral appointment at the Los Alamos National Laboratory and credits social gatherings with providing opportunities to network with scientists from all professional areas, including national laboratories.

When asked if there was anything else he wanted to share, Ben extends his thanks to the SAS for playing a major role in his development as a scientist: "whether it was explaining my own research, or learning about the research of my colleagues, or just meeting new people", the Society exceeded any expectations he could have imagined when he first joined. As parting advice to SAS student members, Ben says, "Do everything possible to attend the events. It is such an excellent place to network and see what other scientists are doing; professors, national laboratory affiliates, and company representatives also attend SAS events and this allows individuals to get their name noticed, which is beneficial when looking for job opportunities."

We would like to thank Ben for his commitment to the SAS community, and wish him all the best as he nears the next stage of his career.

Contributed by Chad Atkins
SAS Student Representative

**Award Nominations are now being accepted.
Send all nomination material to exdir@s-a-s.org.
Deadline is April 30, 2015.**

Barbara Stull Graduate Student Award

This award is given to a graduate student(s) in honor of longtime SAS employee, Barbara Stull, in recognition of outstanding research in the area of spectroscopy. Any full-time graduate student doing research in the field of spectroscopy shall be eligible for the award. The recipient shall be selected by the Awards Committee. The award shall consist of a plaque or scroll and an expense-paid trip to FACSS to accept the award. Nominations may come from any individual. Nomination material should include at least one letter of recommendation along with supporting documentation on research, a current CV, and short bio. Submission deadline April 30.

Undergraduate Award in Applied Spectroscopy

These awards are given to up to five junior or senior undergraduate students in recognition of outstanding research in the area of spectroscopy. Any full-time undergraduate student doing research in the field of spectroscopy shall be eligible for the award. The student's research advisor must be an SAS member in good standing to be eligible for the award. The recipient shall be selected by the Awards Committee. Nomination material should include at least one letter of recommendation along with supporting documentation on research, a current CV, and short bio. The Society will provide each awardee with a one-year membership and a certificate. Submission deadline April 30.

William J. Poehlman Award

This award is granted to the Regional Section of the Society, which has contributed the most toward accomplishing the goals and ideals of the Society during the preceding year. It consists of a certificate and an honorarium of \$200.00. Regional Sections must provide a nomination packet that includes information on local section activities and a letter outlining why they feel they are deserving of the award. Submission deadline April 30.