



Society of Applied Spectroscopy
New England Section

December Dinner Meeting Announcement

When: Thursday December 3, 2015
5:30 – 6:30 Social Hour
6:30 – 7:30 Dinner
7:30 – 8:30 Presentation & Discussion

Where: **Radisson Hotel & Suites, Chelmsford, MA**
10 Independence Drive, Chelmsford, MA 01824 (978-256-0800)

Speaker: Brendan Connors
Senior Scientist at SciAps, Inc.

Title: **Advances in Field-Portable Handheld LIBS Analyzers**

Abstract:

Field-portable handheld Laser-Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy (LIBS) analyzers have attracted significant attention in recent years. Long a technique used in academic and some industrial settings, the past few years have seen several commercial handheld LIBS analyzers introduced for a wide variety of applications requiring elemental analysis. Many of these analyzers offer features commonly found in large bench-top systems including variable time gating, argon purge, high resolution, wide spectral range, laser spot rastering, and video targeting. Application areas of interest include metals testing, geochemical analysis, environmental monitoring, polymer recycling, forensics, biological screening, and many more as the technology reaches a wider audience. In this talk we will consider how LIBS works, the benefits and limitations of the technique, calibration and sample preparation, and the unique challenges of portable and in-situ analysis. LIBS shows particular promise for the testing of lighter (low Z) elements and spatial elemental mapping of surfaces, so applications featuring these will be highlighted.

Speaker Biography:

Brendan Connors is a Senior Scientist at SciAps, Inc., a manufacturer of field-portable LIBS, Raman, and NIR analyzers in Woburn, MA. He has worked in the field of portable analytical devices for the past 11 years, previously working for Olympus IMS (formerly Innov-X Systems) on portable XRF analyzers for elemental analysis. His focus is on chemometrics, algorithms, and applications development. He holds an AB in Chemistry and Physics from Harvard University and a MS in Chemistry from the University of California, San Diego.

Dinner Details: Attendees will be ordering and paying for their own meals from the Radisson bar menu. We will meet in the room adjacent to the bar. Please RSVP to Mary Kate Donais at mdonais@anselm.edu so that we can be sure of a headcount and the room's physical arrangement for the talk.

Cost: SAS Members \$15; non-members \$17; full time students and unemployed members \$5. Please try to have a check or exact change. These charges are to cover the cost of the room and AV.

Contact: We need to know if you are coming ahead of time. Please contact Mary Kate Donais at mdonais@anselm.edu to make a reservation. If you make a reservation and do not show, you must still pay the cost of the meeting, or else the chapter ends up paying for you! We will refuse to have you attend in the future if you make a reservation and then do not attend and pay.

Directions to the **Radisson Hotel & Suites, Chelmsford, MA**
10 Independence Drive, Chelmsford, MA 01824 (978-256-0800)

In Chelmsford at Exit 34, Route 110 of I-495. Parking is available in front of both the Independence Bar & Grill Building and the Hotel main entrance.

