The SAS Spectrum Newsletter





November/December, 2005

SAS ACTIVITIES AND REPORTS FROM FACSS

SAS HIGHLIGHTS AT FACSS 2005 IN QUEBEC INCLUDED:

- Richard Russo receives Lester Strock Award
- Hirotsugu Hiramatsu and Hiro-o Hamaguchi receive Meggers Award
- Rina Dukor receives SAS Distinguished Service Award
- Wolfgang Kiefer receives SAS Honorary Membership
- James Holcombe elected SAS Fellow
- Ted Rains SAS Student Award Announced

DETAILS BELOW & IN FUTURE ISSUES



SAS President Rebecca Dittmar (left) with Meggers Awardees Hiro-o Hamaguchi (above) and Hirotsugu Hiramatsu (below) at Wine & Cheese Reception



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- James de Haseth elected SAS President (2007)
- Continued development of relationships with other organizations
- Increased emphasis in Applied Spectroscopy on Focal Point articles
- Electronic files of all issues of Applied Spectroscopy available by end of 2005
- Electronic discussion board running on SAS website
- 2006 Tour Speaker Program underway

DETAILS BELOW

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Comments to newsletter@s-a-s.org

President's Report Cynthia Mahan, Fall 2005

It is hard to believe that my year as President of SAS is coming to a close already. One year is just not enough to accomplish all the things one sets out to achieve. In my Spring report to the Executive Committee I outlined several things that I wanted to see accomplished during my term in office. Those tasks included increasing committee effectiveness, increase Technical Section activity, and continue to build a positive and mutually beneficial relationship with FACSS.

While these may seem like simple goals, as it turns out they are not as clear cut as one might imagine. With regard to committee effectiveness, we are still not being very successful. It appears to be extremely difficult to motivate volunteers to complete assigned tasks despite the prodding of the national office. The committees that work the best clearly are the ones that have a defined task such as choosing an award winner and a task that is not long term in nature. The committees that do not seem to function as well are those that are more long range in nature and that require planning and discussion to complete tasks. Despite our best efforts at both PITTCON in the Spring and at this FACSS meeting to offer our committees a time and place to meet and discuss their plans, not one committee has taken us up on the offer.

My second presidential term goal was to increase the effectiveness of the Technical Sections. We have made some significant headway in this area in that several of our Technical Sections are hosting symposia at this FACSS meeting. This is a very important component of the Technical Sections and needs to be carried out at as many meetings as possible for visibility purposes.

The third and final goal of my administration was to continue to foster a positive and beneficial relationship with FACSS. FACSS is the SAS National Meeting and there is a great need to promote this event as such. We have been working with FACSS for a year on how we can make SAS more visible at FACSS and after much discussion and idea sharing several initiatives were implemented. These include prominent recognition of SAS and the fact that FACSS is the SAS National Meeting on all marketing materials including mailers, programs, brochures, letterhead and the FACSS web site; the opening up of the program to our technical sections for symposia sponsorship; allowance of a membership sign-up table at onsite registration for FACSS; and the chance for SAS EC members to review materials being sent out by FACSS in order to ensure proper recognition of the Society. These are great strides in our continued efforts to increase SAS visibility.

Finally, I would like to say how much I have enjoyed serving as President of this organization. You don't realize all that goes on behind the scenes by our dedicated volunteers until you experience it first hand. Thanks goes to all those who accepted the task of participating as a volunteer on an SAS committee and

who do so much to make the Society function in so many important ways.

Secretary's Report Dave Lankin, Fall 2005

SAS GOVERNING BOARD MEETING TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2004 8:00 p.m. DOUBLETREE HOTEL LLOYD CENTER -PORTLAND, OR ROSS ISLAND/MORRISON ROOM Business Meeting

8:00 p.m. I. Call To Order Robert G. MichelRobert Michel called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM.

8:05 p.m. II. Roll Call David Lankin

President - Robert Michel Present
Past-President - Laurence Nafie Present
President-Elect - Cynthia Mahan Present
Treasurer - Deborah Bradshaw Present
Secretary - David Lankin Present
Executive Director - Bonnie Saylor Present
Newsletter Editor - Marvin Margoshes Present
Editor-in-Chief - Joel Harris Not Present
Editor - Paul Farnsworth Present
Web Editor - Steve Bialkowski Present
Membership Education Coordinator - Steve Barnett

Student Representative - Debbie Serna Present Parliamentarian - Rebecca Dittmar Present Membership Chair-Elect – Paige Eugan Present Treasurer – Elect – Chris Hassell Present

2004-2005 At-Large Delegates

David Butcher Present Mark Druy Present Daniel McGraw Present Don Pivonka Not Present Slav Stepanovich Not Present

Present

2003-2004 At-Large Delegates

Vasilis Gregoriou (International Delegate) Present Bruce McIntosh Present David Moore Present Dale Perry Not Present Sandra Thompson Not Present

Local Section Delegates

Mary Carrabba Present
Emil Ciurczak Present
Sheila Rodman Not Present
Douglas Shrader Present
Rajiv Soman Not Present

Local Section Voting Delegates

Arizona Not Present
Baltimore / Washington Not Present
Chicago - Rina Dukor Present
Cincinnati Not Present
Cleveland Not Present
Delaware Valley Not Present
Detroit Not Present
Houston Not Present

Indiana Not Present

Intermountain - Paul Farnsworth Present Kansas City Not Present Mid-Michigan Not Present Minnesota Not Present

New England - Richard Crocombe Present

New York - Howard Mark Present

Niagara Frontier No Delegate

Northern California - Zhenhuan Chi Present

Ohio Valley Not Present

Pacific Northwest Not Present

Penn York Not Present

Piedmont Not Present

Pittsburgh - John Jackowitz Present

Reading Not Present

Rio Grande - Present

Rocky Mountain No Delegate

Southern California No Delegate

Snake River - Rene Rodregez Present

St. Louis No Delegate

Toledo Not Present

A quorum was present.

8:10 p.m. III. Introductions - Robert G. Michel

8:15 p.m. IV. Meeting Rules of Order - Rebecca Dittmar

8:20 p.m. V. Approval of Minutes from October 21, 2003

It was moved (David Moore) and Seconded (John Jackowitz) that the Minutes of the October 21, 2003 Governing Board be accepted. The motion carried.

Governing Board Meeting

8:30 p.m. VI. Reports

A. President Report Attached

Robert Michel briefly summarized the hightlights of his written report.

B. Secretary Report Attached

The Minutes of the October 21, 2003 Governing Board constituted the Secretary's report.

- C. Treasurer Prelim Report Attached
- D. Executive Director Report Attached
- E. Journal Editor Report Attached

F. Newsletter Editor Report Attached

John Jackowitz (Pittsburg Section) extended congratulations to Marvin Margoshes for the excellent job he has done on the Society Newsletter.

G. Membership Education Report Attached

Steve Barnett summarized his report and highlighted the Lecture Presentation Program. The first lectures will be available for distribution to SAS members.

H. Web Editor Report Attached

Steve Bialkowski summarized his report with several points:

- -What's new?
- -SAS is providing Supplementary Information for papers published in Applied Spectroscopy on the SAS website.
- -SAS hosted an on-line survey for SAS members.
- -a CD of Focal Point articles is available for distribution to SAS members.

I. Student Representative Report Attached

Debbie Serna summerized her report and noted the following activities:

- At Pittcon, a social activity held for students and 2 students became members.

 A career development seminar, emphasizing the transition from graduate school to industry, was held at Pittcon.

It was moved (Bruce McIntosh) and seconded (Kelly From) to accept the Officers Reports. The motion carried.

8:45 p.m. VII. National SAS Committee Reports

A. Awards Report Attached

Nominations for SAS awards are currently being accepted.

B Constitution and Bylaws No Report

C. Local Section Affairs Report Attached

Bonnie Saylor made a plea for nominations for the Poehlman Award for 2005.

- D. Membership No Report
- E. Nominating No Report
- F. Publications Report Attached
- G. Publicity No Report
- H Tour Speaker No Report
- I. Meggers Award No Report
- J. Strock Award Report
 Attached. It was moved (David Moore) and seconded (Mary Carrabba) that the Committee Reports be accepted. The motion carried.

L Tellers Report Attached

9:00 p.m. VIII. Delegates Reports A. FACSS Report Attached

The locations of the FACSS Meeting for the next three years were noted:

- Quebec City (2005)
- Orlando, FL (2006)
- Memphis, TN (2007)

B. Chemical Heritage Foundation Report Attached

Marvin Margoshes summarized his report. It was moved (Eileen Skelly Frame) and seconded (David Moore) that the Delegate Reports be accepted. The motion carried.

9:10 p.m. IX. Unfinished Business

A. Journal Back Files

Paul Farnsworth briefly reviewed the back filing project, approved by the Executive Committee, for the Society's journal "Applied Spectroscopy". The project would provide the creation of a digital archive of Volumes 1-50, involving the scanning of 6150 papers representing > 60,000 pages. The costs associated with the creation of electronic back filing of "Applied Spectroscopy". The scanned journal articles would then be made available to libraries and members. Subscriptions to libraries (> 800), which would represent a one-time charge would be used to offset the costs associated with the project. The total costs for the project would be in the range of \$ 85,000. Final approval would need to come from the Governing Board. A motion was made (Rina Dukor) and seconded (John Jakowitz) that the project, approved by the EC, be approved by Governing Board. David Butcher suggested that a higher subscription fee to libraries and institutions could be charged than was proposed. After further discussion the motion carried with 1 negative vote.

B. Budget Review and Approval

The proposed budget was reviewed and a motion was made (Doug Shrader) and seconded (David Moore) that the proposed budget be approved. The motion carried.

C. FACSS Issues

Because of the extent of the topic John Jackowitz suggested that Robert Michel limit the discussion for any one person. Robert Michel reviewed the results of the SAS member survey regarding FACSS. The FACSS exhibits were not a big issue. There is not enough traffic reflecting the lower attendence figures at the FACSS meeting. A proposal which would require SAS membership to present a paper at FACSS was discussed. Robert Michel also briefly reviewed the key issues that were discussed at the SAS EC / FACSS EC retreat for the Governing

D. Membership Coordinator Position

Paige Eagan, who was nominated by the EC for the position of Membership Coordinator (3-year term), was placed before the Governing Board for approval. A motion was made (David Butcher) and seconded (Rina Dukor) to approve Paige Eagan as the Membership Coordinator. The motion carried.

9:45 p.m. X. New Business

Robert Michel reported to the Governing Board that the Reading, PA Section had requested to be given an inactive status. After brief discussion it was moved (Paul Farnsworth and seconded (David Moore) that the Reading, PA Section be declared inactive. The motion carried.

10:00 p.m. XI. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held during the FACSS Meeting in Quebec City / 2005.

10:05 p.m. XII. Adjournment

It was moved (Paul Farnsworth) and aeconded (Doug Shrader) that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 10:43 p.m.

Executive Director's Report October 2005

Membership: 2005 to date: 1835 This time last year: 1919

Membership Breakdown USA 1534 International 301

Academic Non-Student 2005: 441 Student 209

Non-Academic 1185

Academic Non-Student 2004: 462 Student 169

Non-Academic 1288

Total New Members for 2005 205 Total New Members for 2004 145 Total Not Renewed for 2005: 376 **Total Not Renewed Last Year: 482**

2005 Registered for Online Access 467 2004 Registered for Online Access 419 2003 Registered for Online Access 441 2002Registered for Online Access 415 2001 Registered for Online Access 325

Total enrolled in Local Section 2005 1139 Total enrolled in Local Section 2004 1351 Total enrolled in Local Section 2003 1987

Total enrolled in Technical Section 2005 824 Total enrolled in Technical Section 2004 771 Total enrolled in Technical Section 2003 405

Total Paid for Extra Section 2005 65 **Total Paid for Extra Section 2004** 89 Total Paid for Extra Section 2003: 73

Subscriptions 2005 To Date: 765 Last Year This Time: 791

Subscriber Breakdown USA 566 International 199

Total Not Renewed for 2005: 75 Total New

Subscribers for 2005: 35

This Time Last Year: 102 This Time Last Year: 53

2005 Registered for Online Access 420 2004 Registered for Online Access 377 2003 Registered for Online Access: 374 2002 Registered for Online Access: 321 2001 Registered for Online Access: 273 2005 Signed License on File: 258 2005 No License on File: 162

Members

There does not appear to be an end in sight to the continued decrease in membership each year. We have a number of marketing strategies in place which include mass mailings, presence at conferences, local section marketing, member get a member campaigns, author recruitment, academic promotions etc. Mass mailings are not the greatest. We get about a 1-2% return which is typical for any mass mailing. We get a higher percentage return from our mass mailings to the conference lists that apply directly to us (e.g. Winter Plasma, EAS, PITTCON and FACSS) but not much. As for conference booths, of course we do best at FACSS and PITTCON. We used to go to EAS, but the cost to go outweighed the results dramatically. Same with Winter Plasma. We now send our material to be put out instead. At EAS for example, we would go for several days to man the booth and only sign up 4 people.

We get quite a few from brochures that we send out. In fact now that we have our new brochures I plan on doing a test marketing mailing to one of our smaller lists (brochures are expensive) to see if we get a higher response than from some of our mailings. We also get a good number of new folks from the secure server (44 in 2004) which means someone is checking out our web site. I believe that when we do the mass mailings and put out material at conferences people see our web site and then check it out and choose to join then. That is why we are sure to make our web address prominent everywhere.

Dropping membership is a problem for many similar organizations. No one has an answer. Globalization is a huge factor in retaining and getting new members. Now

that our journal is accessible online to everyone we have seen the income in our royalties area for copyright and pay-per-view increase to what would equate in revenue terms to 300 members. We are in a situation now where technology is such that you don't "need" to belong to anything because you can easily get the info. Gone are the days when people used to peruse journals etc from front to back just to see what is new. Now they want the info on whatever topic they are looking for and they want it fast. This is certainly true for our students and they are the future of the society. It's tough to convince a student to join. The societies that are succeeding are those that have programs that require membership that their membership needs to succeed in their career (e.g accreditation or requirements of membership for paper presentation at a conference) which we do not have.

I think that the future of SAS will be very different from what it looks like now. I think we will always have a small core group of people who will be members and we will continue to get some new folks on board. I think we need to concentrate our efforts in the future on marketing our journal content to people and not so much the other "benefits" of membership so they either subscribe to the journal or are willing to check it out every month online to see if something interests them for purchase on pay per view.

I think we must also continue to work to develop relationships with other organizations. I think working with OSA is a good start (we already have some things in place with them). I don't think having any one group take over another is the answer, but SAS needs to look at itself as a the more general organization knowing that there are smaller specialty organizations out there that are related and give those organizations say in SAS (governing board and ec membership) as long as say a certain number of their members are our members. Offer package membership deals essentially. I don't know if any other groups would want to do this or not. I think the fact that OSA wants to work with us so closely now is because they are suffering as well and they see this as an opportunity to increase their membership as well (and indeed it is). Every group needs new members and by combining our efforts perhaps we can all benefit.

Spectroscopy has and is continuing to change. The folks who who are in the field don't think they are in the field. Practitioners are taking over jobs and the technology has advanced so that it is not necessary for a Ph.D. level person to do a job. Heck, fireman are running around with portable IR machines.

We have completed several mail marketing campaigns this year including mailings to non-member authors, EAS 2004, PITTCON 2005, Optical Society of America mailing list, Spectroscopy Magazine mailing list, Science Professionals mailing list, Biophysical Society mailing list, and ASMS mailing list. Additionally, Ingenta is going to allow us to sell memberships via our online journal. Subscription sales will be coming in the future.

Subscribers

Last year we targeted a brand new market for subscribers. Since we have been indexed in Medline, we did a major marketing campaign aimed at medical libraries. We did not see the response we had hoped for. We are hoping that having the back issues online will help us attract new subscribers.

Corporate Sponsors

We currently have 14 corporate sponsors.

Finances

The budget has been prepared and will be presented by Chris Hassell. We received the management comments from the 2004 audit right after PITTCON. The comments were all good.

Local and Technical Sections

Local and Technical sections continue to struggle with getting volunteers to serve as officers and with getting people to attend meetings. This is an ongoing problem. The following is a breakdown of membership in technical and local sections:

Local Section	Count	Techn. Section	Count
Arizona	26	Atomic Spectro.	163
Baltimore-Wash	83	BioMedical	36
Canada	15	BioTech	9
Chicago	108	Chemometrics	45
Cincinnati	25	Fluorescence	59
Cleveland	45	Forensics	26
Delaware Valley	47	Imaging	49
Detroit	16	Laser Sampling	16
European	1	Near-IR Spectro	88
Houston	37	NMR	19
Indiana	25	Polymer Char	31
Intermountain International	14 85	ProcessAnaly VibrationCoblentz	21 262
Kansas City	65 17	Total Techn	202 824
Mid-Michigan	17	Total Techni	024
Minnesota	34		
New England	128		
New York	83		
Niagara Frontier	9		
Northern Californ	-		
Ohio Valley	25		
Other US	3		
Pacific Northwest	_		
Penn-York	12		
Piedmont	68		
Pittsburgh	30		
Rio Grande	14		
Rocky Mountain	41		
Snake River	13		
Southern Californ			
St. Louis	16		
Toledo	2		
Total Local	1139		

Journal Editor's Report Joel M. Harris, August 29, 2005

Applied Spectroscopy has run smoothly since our previous meeting in October. Last year, we published 2 accelerated papers, 190 regular articles, 6 spectroscopic technique papers, 15 Notes, 2 Letters (Correspondence), one Feature Article, and 4 Focal-Point articles. Our page count was 1536 pages in the research section and 362 in the A-pages. The return/rejection rate for Applied Spectroscopy remains competitive with other top quality journals, averaging ~26% last year. The production costs for the journal are staying below budget thanks to continued aggressive management of manuscript quality, length, and color page costs, along with control of error costs in proofs, figures, and production, thanks to Rebecca Airmet. Rebecca is now editing manuscripts electronically, which saves the Society about \$100 to \$200 per month. Electronic editing also saves the cost of press errors, improves our quality, and saves time spent in rechecking Proofs. Rebecca is preparing to provide marked manuscripts electronically to Allen Press which will be implemented when Allen Press completes their transition to a new typesetting system; this will translate into a shorter time period between manuscript acceptance and publication. She plans to travel to Allen Press to be trained on the new system before the end of the year.

In the Journal office, we have launched a fully electronic, Web-based manuscript-handling system for Applied Spectroscopy in July. This system is designed to streamline the flow of information between authors, editors, reviewers, and our production process. The SAS contracted with its printer, Allen Press Inc., to provide Web-based manuscript-handling through a system called AllenTrack. This system merges with their production processing and is built on software from E-Journal Press. E-Journal Press also provides the online submission and peer review software for the American Institute of Physics, the National Academy of Sciences, Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM), and the Nature Publishing Group. Manuscript submission and processing is entirely electronic, including reviewer requests, transmission of manuscripts to reviewers, the return of reviews, communication of reviews and decisions to authors, and the transmission of the final version of the manuscript to production. This integrated manuscript processing system gives authors the ability to query the status of their papers through the entire review and production process. Our Editors in Europe, Asia, and Canada will be able to coordinate reviewing with the central Journal Office, saving paper, mailing costs, and time in transit. Access to manuscripts is controlled by secure login and user privileges; Associate Editors and reviewers have access only to manuscripts that they have been asked to review. Authors submit manuscripts and figure files to our database over the internet; the files are converted to a Web-viewable PDF format, which can be checked by the author. Most wordprocessing files are convertible including DOC, WPD, RTF, LaTeX, and TXT. Graphic files containing figures

can also be uploaded including JPEG, TIFF, GIF, PDF, CDR, PPT, XLS, or EPS formats. Authors who wish to submit their manuscripts via mail, the Journal Office can create a scanned PDF file and enter the manuscript into the system. Reviewers who wish to receive a paper copy of a manuscript to review can continue to do so. Our author database has been translated into the new system, and previous authors were contacted by e-mail with information about logging onto the new system. Manuscripts can be submitted by visiting http://applspec.allentrack.net and following the instructions. The rate of new manuscripts received by the Journal Office increased significantly in August, based on submissions via the new system.

Based on suggestions discussed at the FACSS Publications Committee meeting, we are taking steps to broaden the range of topics that we publish, which should improve our scope and impact. Focal Point articles are our most cited papers by far, and these articles can attract new areas of spectroscopy to the Journal. The Editorial Board spent most of its meeting at PittCon discussing new topics and authors for this series. In addition, Rina Dukor was appointed a new Focal Point Editor this spring to cover topics in the molecular and biospectroscopy areas.; she joins Ben Smith, who handles the atomic and gas-phase spectroscopy area. New Editorial Board appointments for 2005 include Detlef Günther, David Hahn, Carol Korzeniewski, Akbar Montasser, Larry Nafie, and Mike Pelletier. Thanks to the help of the Editorial Board and Focal Point Editors, we have commitments from authors to write 15 new Focal Point articles for publication over the next two years. Suggestions for new topics and authors are always welcome.

Due to the efficient work of the Meggers Committee and its chair, Eileen Skelly Frame, Meggers Award balloting was completed in January to allow the 2004 award paper "Development of Infrared Electroabsorption Spectroscopy and Its Application to Molecular Structural Studies" by Hirotsugu Hiramatsu and Hiro-o Hamaguchi to be recognized by a plenary lecture at FACSS. The honored paper appeared in the April 2004 issue of Applied Spectroscopy (Volume 58, Number 4, pages 355-366).

An updated CD containing PDF files of all the Focal Point articles from 1994 through 2004 has been organized and edited by Stephen Bialkowski and duplicated by the *Journal Office*. The volume also includes the recent Meggers Award papers, Focus on Careers, and material about the Society from the SAS web pages. These have been reproduced by the *Journal* office at a modest cost, ~\$1.40/ea in lots of 200 or more. Copies of the CD are available for purchase from the Society Office by SAS members and students taking courses in spectroscopy. Further suggestions for the production, distribution, and content of these CDs are welcome.

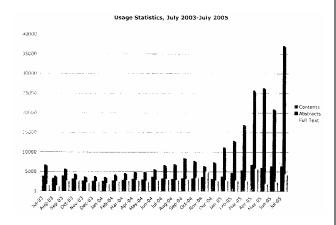
Finally, Paul Farnsworth spearheaded a project early this year to scan the first 50 volumes of *Applied Spectroscopy* into searchable PDF archive. This is an

important accomplishment for the Society for Applied Spectroscopy, by which the history of its journal will be preserved and distributed widely via the Web in the future. The archive (back to 1980) is already posted to the Web by our on-line journal host, Ingenta; it is currently available to SAS members and library subscribers as a part of the on-line edition of the Journal. The quality of the scanned pages and underlying searchable text is outstanding. The complete archive will be available to SAS members by the end of the year (and into the future) as a member benefit. Starting next year, access to the archive by libraries will be available for a small (\$150) annual fee or a one-time (\$500) payment, which will help cover the cost of producing and hosting this material. This is an exciting development for the *Journal* which will allow our past scientific content to be widely available in the future. It is an immediate benefit to libraries that are new subscribers, and it may help promote the sale of new subscriptions.

Online Journal Report Fall 2005 Prepared by Paul Farnsworth, editor

Usage statistics

Download numbers for contents pages, abstracts, and full text articles are summarized in the chart below.



I believe that the explosive growth in access to abstracts can be attributed to a decision early this year to make the abstracts public, so that they can be viewed by nonsubscribers and indexed by search engines. The low numbers of full text downloads in May and June were probably due to access problems at Ingenta. One trend not shown in the graph that is worth noting is that we are seeing growing numbers of payper-view downloads. In quarter 2 of 2004 we had 20 downloads for \$240. By the fourth quarter of last year, the number was 45 downloads, and in each of the first two quarters of this year we had 74 downloads, with income of \$880 per guarter. When we set our current price of \$12 per download, the number of downloads was insignificant. We may want to review our pricing in light of the increasing demand for this service.

Most frequently downloaded articles in the last two years

The following table lists the most frequently downloaded articles in the last two years.

Issue and Title

(v56n2s2) - Surface-Enhanced Raman Spectroscopy in Single Living Cells Using Gold Nanoparticles (v57n11s1) - Surface Plasmon Resonance Imaging as a Tool to Monitor Biomolecular Interactions in an Array (v57n1s1) - Quantitative Analysis Using Raman Spectrometry

(v57n10s2) - Laser-Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy Detection and Classification of Biological Aerosols (v57n8s1) - Identification of Bacterial Spores Using Statistical Analysis of Fourier Transform Infrared Photoacoustic

(v57n10s6) - In Vivo Noninvasive Measurement of Blood Glucose by Near-Infrared Diffuse-Reflectance Spectroscopy

(v58n1s5) - Surface-Enhanced Raman Spectroscopy as a Tool for Probing Specific Biochemical Components (v58n3s6) - Surface-Enhanced-Raman-Scattering-Inducing Nanoprobe for Spectrochemical Analysis (v58n11s5) - Surface-Enhanced Infrared Spectroscopy (v56n1s1) - Quantum Dots: A Primer

The Focal Point articles continue to dominate the list, and are clearly an important component of the journal.

Backfiles

We have moved ahead with the digitization of our backfile. The SGML generation should be complete by the end of September, and the posting of the files on the Ingenta posts materials on the website within a few weeks after the files are sent from Pinehurst. At the time this report is being prepared, volumes back to 1980 are available on the Ingenta website. There have been some glitches in the file access, but overall the quality of the pdf files appears to be very high. When it is complete, I expect the backfile to be a valuable resource to the society and to the scientific community in general. The plan is to have the complete backfile ready for subscribers in 2006. The backfile will be priced as per the attached chart.

Newsletter Editor's Report David Butcher July 15, 2005

Three issues of the newsletter have been published since our last report. The March issue focused on SAS events at the past 2004 and upcoming 2005 FACSS meetings. The April issue included reports presented at the Spring, 2005 Executive Committee Meeting. The Summer, 2005 issue discussed the activities of the new SAS Technical Sections. Thanks to Stephen Bialkowski, the Web Editor, for all his assistance. Following a suggestion from the Executive Committee, Bonnie has been notifying the membership when new issues are posted to the website. I appreciate her assistance with this matter and many others. Thanks for your comments and suggestions regarding this publication.



Treasurer's Report

Actuals vs. Budget (Summary) January through September 2005

January through Se		Jan-Sep 05	Budget	\$ Over	% of
		our ocp oo	Buaget	Budget	Budget
Ordinary	Income/Expense			_	
Income					
	4100 Education Programs	0.00	15,000.00	(15,000.00)	0.0 %
	4230 Focal Point Book	1067.00	1,000.00	67	106.7 %
	4300 Member Dues	130,905.25	137,000.00	(6,094.75)	95.6 %
	4500 Journal Income	510,246.42	600,000.00	(89,753.58)	85.0 %
	4800 Chapter Income	150.00	1,100.00	(950.00)	13.6%
	4830 General	6,245.00	4,000.00	(2,245.00)	156.1%
	Contributions				
	4850 Investment Income	7,028.47	6,000.00	1,028.47	117.1 %
	4900 Misc. Income	1,195.00	2,000.00	(805.00)	59.8%
Total Income		656,837.14	766,100.00	(109,262.86)	85.7 %
Expense					
Lybelise	6000 Salaries	98,144.44	134,000.00	(35,855.56)	73.2 %
	6040 Payroll Taxes	7,735.21	11,500.00	(3,764.79)	67.3 %
	6060 Personnel Benefits	387.98	4,700.00	(4,312.02)	8.3%
	6100 Executive Comm	16,208.84	30,000.00	(13,791.16)	54.0 %
	6150 Governing Board	10,200.04	3,000.00	(3,000.00)	0.0 %
	6170 Membership Comm	0.00	200.00	(200.00)	0.0%
	6190 Other Committees	1,046.69	1,200.00	(153.31)	87.2%
	6200 Journal	303,172.91	414,500.00	(111,327.09)	73.1 %
	6300 Newsletter	500.00	1,000.00	(500.00)	50.0%
	6330 Internet Services	864.05	2,000.00	(1,135.95)	43.2 %
	6400 Member Services	9,563.95	13,000.00	(3,436.05)	73.6%
	6500 Member Education	0.00	10,000.00	(10,000.00)	0.0%
	6600 Awards	4,476.95	18,000.00	(13,523.05)	24.9%
	6650 Sections	2,043.32	28,000.00	(25,956.68)	7.3%
	6700 Conferences	4,138.55	10,000.00	(5,861.45)	41.4%
	6730 Member	2,685.31	15,000.00	(12,314.69)	17.9 %
	Acquis/Retent	2,000.01	10,000.00	(12,014.00)	17.5 70
	6800 Society Office	50,936.83	76,000.00	(25,063.17)	67.0%
	6970 Fundraising	0.00	300.00	(0.00)	0.0%
	7000 Financing Expenses	2,003.15	4,200.00	(2,196.85)	47.7%
	7200 Depreciation	907.32	2,000.00	(1,092.68)	45.4%
Total Expense	7200 Boprodiation	504,815.50	778,600.00	(273,784.50)	64.8%
		00.,0.0.00	110,000.00	(=: 0,: 0 ::00)	0 11070
Net Ordinary Income		152,021.64	(12,500.00)	164,521.64	(1,216.2)%
Other Income/Expense					
Other Expense	0000 1/ : 1 0:	2.22			
	9020 Voided Checks	0.00	(40 500 00)	40.500.00	0.007
	9900 Chapter Distribution Add –Back	0.00	(12,500.00)	12,500.00	0.0%
Total Other Expense		0.00	(12,500.00)	12,500.00	0.0%
Net Other Income		0.00	12,500.00	(12,500.00)	0.0%
Net Income		152,021.64	0.00	152,021.64	100.0%
Mer income		132,021.04	0.00	132,021.04	100.0%

Member Education Report for FACSS 2005 Steve Barnett, September 19, 2005

The Membership Education program has built up a series of lectures for distribution to SAS members. The current list of lectures that have been, or will soon be, completed are:

Speaker, Affiliation	Title	Date of Lecture
Prof. Daniel Higgins, Kansas State University	"New Optical Microscopic Methods for Characterization of Thin Films"	2002
Dr. Isao Noda, Proctor & Gamble	"Two-Dimensional (2-D) Correlation Spectroscopy"	2003
Dr. Hugh Gotts, Balazs Analytical Services	"FT-IR and Raman Spectroscopy/Microscopy in the Semiconductor Industry"	2005
Dr. Dianne Parry (with 1-2 other colleagues), Proctor & Gamble	"Career in Chemistry/Spectroscopy Letter"	2005

Unfortunately, I will need to resign my position as Membership Education Coordinator as of the FACSS meeting. I look forward to working with the new coordinator in transitioning these lectures for use by SAS members.

I have enjoyed my time as Membership Education Coordinator and look forward to working for the Society in the future. I would like to thank all of the Executive Committee and Governing Board members who I have worked with over the past four years. In particular, I would like to thank the entire SAS office staff (Bonnie, Victor, and Barbara) – they have been of great assistance and a pleasure to work with.

Web Editor's Report August 2005 (from Stephen Bialkowski)

There have been a couple new items added to the SAS web site in addition to the routine changes and additions.

First, we now have an electronic discussion board up and running. This part of the web site has both public and private areas. People can post and/or ask general questions concerning spectroscopy in the public section. The private section is for use by the SAS committees. So far, this area has been used quite a bit.

The software cost less than \$200 and so far has not required much of my time to perform maintenance and administration. I have not policed the BBS but there seems to be a couple of odd proclamations.

Second, we now have links to affiliate societies on the home page and we are promoting the Optical Society of America annual meeting.

I have received a couple complaints from members regarding the appearance of the web site. I asked both for clarification and suggestions for improvements. But I didn't receive any input. Nonetheless, I am looking at other web site designs to redress and refresh our public image. I have been sampling society web sites to see what their formats are. The SAS web site seems typical of a small non-profit. However, as one complaint points out, we may be able to attract more members if we had a 'professional-looking' web presence.

There are problems with keeping up with the "What's New" column. I seem to be out-of-the-loop on new content. I have contacted the editor to work something out. I feel that this is important aspect of the web site that should be kept up to date. It would help sell the journal advertising and the society.

I have logged 56 hours working on the SAS web from January 1 through August 23, 2005. This is about 7 hours per month. I requested an increase is in the per hour charges from \$15 to \$17.50 This request was approved in June, 2005.

SAS Student Representative's Report Debbie Serna Fall 2005

Learning from my experience and the student representative before me has helped in the planning and organizing of student functions at PITTCON and FACSS. My first priority has always been to come up with ideas to help students become aware of what the Society for Applied Spectroscopy (SAS) is and what SAS has to offer undergraduate and graduate students. One of the many benefits of becoming an SAS member is the journal. For the low rate of \$20 a year, students can become a member and receive a hard copy of the journal as well as online access. It was my duty as student representative to inform students of the many benefits they can gain from becoming a student member. With the help of the executive committee and the local sections round table, we discussed areas that would be of interest to students. I have found that at FACSS it is best to hold a discussion session similar to what was held in Portland, Oregon, "Strategies for Career Development." Speakers from academia, industry, 4-year college and federal government each spoke on their area of expertise. PITTCON is such a large conference that it is best to plan a social event. This gives students a wonderful opportunity to mingle and it gives me the opportunity to meet other student members and discuss the areas they are most concerned with upon entering the "real world," and how SAS can help them prepare for that next step in their career.

A breakfast will be held at this year's FACSS for all student members and their friends who are interested in learning more about becoming a member. An event that I was unable to organize during my term was a student oral symposium at PITTCON. Students have shown interest in having a student oral session. The deadline has passed for 2006, but this would be something to implement for 2007.

I want to thank each and every one of you for making this experience so wonderful for me! I also want to thank the executive committee and SAS student members for helping me come up with great ideas for each conference. It was a success!! Thank you all for everything. I look forward to serving the society as a professional member in the future.

Awards Committee Report D. Christian Hassell, Chair Fall 2005

The 2005 SAS Awards Committee recommended several awards for 2005. The Honorary Membership Award will be presented to Dr. Wolfgang Kiefer for his major contributions, including the use of optical levitation for examining Raman scattering from trapped particles, his discoveries in coherent anti-Stokes Raman spectroscopy, and his development of femtosecond pump-probe Raman scattering and time-resolved CARS, represent fundamental advances in the field.

The 2005 SAS Distinguished Service Award will be presented to Dr. Rina Dukor for her active participation in and longtime service to the Society for Applied Spectroscopy. During her tenure with SAS, Dr. Dukor has been a dedicated volunteer, mentor, and leader. She served as President of the Society in 2000 and on several national committees. During her term as President, Dr. Dukor spearheaded the move to change the structure of the Society to include International and Technical Sections. She was also instrumental in changing the composition of the SAS Governing Board membership and its voting structure.

Finally, the 2005 SAS Graduate Student Award will be presented to Kaveh Jorabchi for his outstanding work in the field of inductively coupled plasmas and related sampling, as well as his work in the improvement of the Direct Injection High Efficiency Nebulizer (DIHEN).

The Awards Committee was impressed with the quality of candidates for all awards.

Report of the Local Section Affairs Committee FACSS 2005 Rajiv S. Soman, Chair

Committee Members: Emil W. Ciurczak, Eileen McClendon, Rajiv S. Soman and Dennis J. Walls

The Local Section Affairs Committee received two nominations for the Poehlman Award. Members received a packet of supporting materials from the National SAS Office. The two local sections that submitted nominations were the Chicago Local Section and the Cleveland Local Section.

After reviewing the supporting materials sent by National SAS, Committee members deliberated via Emails and via telephone. The Committee has voted unanimously that the Cleveland Local Section receive the Poehlman Award. This award recognizes and honors the local section that has contributed the

most toward accomplishing the objectives of the Society.

The Committee was most impressed with the level and breadth of activities carried out in <u>both</u> local sections. Both local section officers and local memberships deserve to be complimented for their wonderful effort. Members were of the opinion that the Cleveland Section's program was extremely well rounded, and their efforts involving high school students and teachers to be particularly meritorious and important in promoting the goals of the Society.

The committee members expressed some suggestions which are noted below:

- The Committee recommends that other local sections receive copies of these activities which have resulted in success for the Chicago and the Cleveland local sections. Hopefully, this would provide other local sections ideas to explore for activities
- There is a need to develop more communication between the various local section members/officers
- Local sections should explore opportunities for activities that "connect" with the greater community.

SAS Publications Committee Meeting February 28, 2005, 12:05 P.M.

Attending: Michael Morris, David Butcher, Robert Michel, Steve Bialkowski, Joel Harris, Paul Farnsworth, Sue Evans Norris

Old business: None New Business

Report from Journal editor-in-chief (Harris) Editorial board meeting – many new Focal Point ideas were presented. More will be coming. Harris wants focal point in every issue eventually. Discussion of pricing structure for multinational corporations. There is an existing price structure. Class C license plus \$200/site for multi-site institutions. Focal Point CD-ROM will be distributed to attendees at ICAVS this summer. Requirement for printed edition will be dropped for international members and libraries. Web site usage is still high, despite loss of membership. There was a general discussion of the price/membership levels. The meetings proceedings issue was discussed. Harris suggests a separate proceedings journal similar to SPIE proceedings.

Other matters

Report from Journal editor (Farnsworth)
Online usage going well. Focal Point articles are
especially heavily accessed. Digitization of journal
backfile. Complete, will by on Ingenta web site by the end

of summer. It will be searchable PDF's. Paul will investigate ASAP publication.

Report from Newsletter editor (Butcher) Margoshes report presented. His CDROM is ready. On-line newsletter is live. Three issues have been published already. Announcement of issues occupy too much space. Reformatted e-mails with less text and more links would be better.

Web editor report (Bialkowski): Usage tracking presented. There is heavy North American usage, followed by Asia and Europe. Usage peaks on Tuesdays. More extensive data is planned. Pete Poston's What's New is now posted on web site, in addition to in journal. Bialkowski uses Yahoo tracking on spectroscopy keyword. Posts interesting links on web site. Bialkowski will continue for another three years as web editor. There will be public and private chat areas on the web site.

Publicity Committee Report FACSS 2005 Deborah K. Bradshaw, Committee Chair

The only accomplishment of the Publicity Committee this year has been to update the SAS promotional literature. This is now ready for distribution. Most organizations and societies are suffering from declining membership. This is due to a number of reasons, some beyond our control. Two issues which may be addressed are lack of Society visibility and member benefits. The committee does have some suggestions for consideration by the membership to try to promote membership via greater visibility:

- Become more visible in schools and colleges. This could be accomplished through member contact with the local science instructors and departments.
 Members could reach out to appropriate contacts to offer to speak to classes. A generic topic could be careers in chemistry. SAS could perhaps formulate and provide SAS member volunteers with some basic powerpoint material for such a presentation. It is further suggested that the school or college be given a 3 or 6 month subscription to the online version of the journal as a 'Thank you' for their participation.
- Increased short course participation at conferences and meetings. This would increase SAS visibility and be a member benefit (reduced course cost) Two suggestions:
 - A. How to Interview: though this may be primarily for graduating students, it may also be on interest to those in the workplace who find themselves the victims of corporate layoffs and cutbacks. Many of these professionals may not have interviewed for a number of years and have forgotten the skills. With several instructors, role playing could be included for 'experience'.
- B. Safety in the laboratory: this would be a technician level course for the nondegreed laboratory personnel. If we are going to make an attempt to reach out to the technician level, this might be an arena of great interest to them and their employers.

2006 SAS Tour Speaker Report October 11, 2005 Brian Smith

Planning for the 2006 tour speaker program got off to a late start, but is now proceeding apace. On the advice of previous Tour Speaker chairs, local sections were not asked for speaker ideas since this process has been found to be time consuming and nets little response. Experience has shown the program works best if local sections are presented with a list of speakers to choose from, and that is how I plan on running the 2006 program.

I have chosen potential speakers based on input from Bonnie Saylor and other SAS members, from people whose work or reputation are well known, and from the authors of Focal Point articles that have appeared in *Applied Spectroscopy* in the last two years. My goal has been to compile a set of Tour speakers that are interesting, broad ranging, and topical. Thanks to the beauty of e-mail, in a few short weeks I have compiled a list of tour speakers that I believe meet these goals. Here are their names, affiliations, and talk titles.

Dr. Jerry Workman, Director of Molecular Spectroscopy, ThermoNicolet

"NIR, Chemometrics, Sensor Development & Process Analytical Technology: The New Frontier"

Prof. Max Diem, Hunter College
"Optical Diagnosis: Infrared and Raman Spectroscopy of
Human Cells and Tissue."

Dr. Richard Crocombe, Axsun Inc. No title yet, but will be about miniaturized spectrometers and their applications.

Prof. Werner Gellermann, University of Utah "Resonance Raman and Fluorescence Detection of Carotenoid Anti-Oxidants in Living Human Tissue."

Prof. John Olesik, Ohio State University No talk title yet, but on his research in atomic spectroscopy.

Prof. Jill Dill Pasteris, Washington University in St. Louis "Raman Spectroscopy from the Sea Floor to Fossil Bones: Applications in the Earth Sciences."

Prof. James Holcombe, University of Texas

- "For Small, Complex or Unmanageable Samples: ETV-ICPA(TOF)MS."
- 2. "Taking a Clue from Mother Nature: Small Peptides for Metal Pre-concentration and Detection."

I am awaiting word from a few more people on whether they would like to be speakers or not. Once I have 8+ participants I will consider the speakers list complete. I will then e-mail each local section and ask them to pick three names off the list in order of preference. I will then coordinate the availability of each speaker with the proposed dates for local section talks. After that, travel

arrangements will be made. I am looking forward to a successful 2006 SAS Tour Speaker program. I am pleased and gratified that most of the people I have asked to participate in the program have gladly agreed to do so. I would like to thank them in advance for their time and efforts.

Lester Strock Award Committee Report Ramon M. Barnes, Chair; John Olesik, William Lynch

The Committee evaluated a group of outstanding candidates for the 2005 Lester W. Strock Award. Dr. Richard E. Russo of Lawrence Livermore Berkeley National Laboratory was selected for his important work on laser induced plasma studies especially nanosecond and femtosecond laser ablation investigations.

Dr. Russo has investigated fundamental laser ablation processes for more than 15 years and has more than 25 years experience related to laser spectroscopy. He received his BS degree at the University of Florida and PhD degree at Indiana University. Russo joined the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in 1982 and established a research group to study and develop lasermaterial-interactions. His programs include fundamental studies of laser ablation, pulsed laser deposition of thin films, laser ultrasonics, photoacoustics, and optical fiber sensors. He has directed more than seven PhD students at the University of California Berkeley. Dr. Russo has published more than 86 papers in the area of laser ablation (with more than 140 total publications), including three book chapters. He also was the organizer of the Fourth International Conference on Laser Ablation, held in Monterey, California in July 1997.

Sample publications include the following:

- 1. C. Liu, X.L. Mao, X. Zeng, R. Greif, and R.E. Russo, Nanosecond and Femtosecond Laser Ablation o Brass: Particulate and ICPMS Measurements, *Anal. Chem.*, 76, 379-383 (2004).
- 2. M. Satta, X. Zeng, X. Mao, S.S. Mao, R.E. Russo, A. Giardini, and A. Mele, Laser Plasma Spectroscopy of Al-Cu-Fe Quasicrystal and Alloy, *Appl. Spectrosc.*, 57, 737-743 (2003).
- 3. Xianzhong Zeng, Xianglei Mao, Sy-Bor Wen, Ralph Greif, and Richard E Russo, Energy deposition and shock wave propagation during pulsed laser ablation in fused silica cavities, *J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys.* **37** 1132-1136 (2004).
- 4. Xianzhong Zeng, Xianglei Mao, Ralph Greif, and Richard E. Russo, "Ultraviolet femtosecond and nanosecond laser ablation of silicon: Ablation efficiency and laser-induced plasma expansion" *Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory*. Paper LBNL-56159 (March 23, 2004), http://repositories.cdlib.org/lbnl/LBNL-56159

Tellers Committee Report Fall 2005

The Tellers Committee counted all paper ballots and verified all electronic votes for the 2005 SAS election. The presidential candidates were James de Haseth and Jon Carnahan. Dr. de Haseth was the winner.

There were also five candidates for At-Large Governing Board Delegates. The candidates included John Chalmers, Jessica Jarman, Dale Perry, Gloria Story, and Sandra Thompson. All will serve in the capacity of At-Large Delegate with John Chalmers serving as the international delegate.

SAS Fellows Committee Report Fall 2005, Gary Hieftje, James D. Winefordner, Peter Griffiths

The SAS Fellows committee considered a substantial number of strong candidates for Fellowship in the SAS, and overwhelmingly (and enthusiastically) settled on Prof. James Holcombe of the University of Texas. He rose substantially above other competing candidates and therefore is our sole nominee for Fellowship this year.

Long Range Planning Committee Report Robert G. Michel, Chair Sunday, October 9, 2005

The long range planning committee used the new discussion board on the SAS website as the forum for discussion of long-range issues. The text of the discussion can be found by visiting the forum at: http://www.sa-s.org/cgi-bin/discus/board-auth.cgi?file=/25/25.html&lm=1121860710 Over the last year or so, the chair of this committee solicited input from local sections on long range issues. This report distills much of that input into the most important issues.

FACSS

Our membership's view of FACSS can be found by reading the results of the questionnaire about FACSS which is posted on our web site at: http://www.s-a-s.org/SAS FACSS questionnaire results.pdf. Broadly speaking, the LRP committee has heard a great deal of discontent with FACSS. There is a strong undercurrent with the viewpoint that we should involve ourselves in other meetings, or encourage the formation of one or two small specialized meetings on a trial basis. The possibility of running a joint meeting with OSA, and or EAS, is one such idea, and stronger involvement with Pittcon is another suggestion. There is significant sentiment to move the focus of SAS activities to Pittcon instead of FACSS. Many industrial members, who can attend only one meeting per year, prefer to go to Pittcon.

Technicians as SAS members

There has been a suggestion that we try to attract technicians as SAS members. The discussion of this is not fully developed yet, and viewpoints seem to be split, with some feeling that there is no future in it, while others feel that it is a potentially good way to increase

membership. A major effort would be required to create the technician level of membership, as well as to institute a set of coherent activities that would keep them as members.

Trust fund

I have had little response to my suggestion that the society create a sizeable trust fund to support its award programs into the future. Also, I suggest that we find a way to protect the journal should the society continue to lose members at its current rate. It is prudent, in my view that we seek financial advice to protect these two assets.

Report of FACSS Delegates Fall 2005 Cynthia Mahan, Robert Michel, Rebecca Dittmar

In keeping with the positive discussions that were held at the FACSS/SAS retreat in October 2004, the FACSS and SAS Board met again at PITTCON 2005 in Orlando to further discuss issues of mutual concern to the organizations.

After considerable discussion, it was agreed that a greater presence needed to be had on FACSS publicity materials promoting the fact that FACSS is the SAS National Meeting. In exchange, it was also agreed that SAS needs to be more proactive in promoting the same and in promoting the FACSS meeting in general. As such, SAS now has its logo and the SAS National Meeting moniker on all FACSS promotional material including letterhead, programs, mailers and the web site. SAS has agreed to promote the FACSS meeting for several months prior to the start date of the meeting on the cover the journal, *Applied Spectroscopy*.

Other related items regarding publicity that were agreed to included the ability of the SAS EC to view and comment on the publicity material that is being sent out of the FACSS office to ensure SAS is well represented. Additionally, SAS will be allowed to have a table set-up in the FACSS registration area to sign up potential members.

Two issues that were not resolved, but remain of critical importance to SAS is the need for lower registration fees and the need for SAS to obtain members through the registration process. No agreement could be reached on how to handle these issues despite the best efforts of the SAS delegates and EC to present plausible and workable solutions.

FACSS has agreed to hold another retreat at this meeting to further discuss those issues which were not yet resolved.

Report of the Representative To the Chemical Heritage Foundation Marvin Margoshes August 22, 2005

Major steps have been taken to create a museum within the buildings of the Foundation. Sufficient funds have been obtained to begin planning and construction, with more promised. Planning has begun, with opening scheduled for the Summer of 2008.

As now planned, and still subject to revision, the museum will occupy a two-story space, with the central part open for the full height, and a balcony on the sides at the second-story level. (The Othmer Library similarly occupies a two-story space with balconies.) The space will contain both instruments and art, and other small areas around the building will continue to house both kinds of exhibits.

Video projections of oral history interviews will an important part of the instrument exhibits, to help to relate the instruments to developments in science and in the lives of all people. The interviews are to be conducted, in many cases, by members of the Instruments and Artifacts Committee, using procedures that were developed at the Smithsonian Institution. The first interviewee will be John Ferraro, who served as President of SAS (1965) and Editor-in-Chief of *Applied Spectroscopy* (1968-1974), and is an Honorary Member of SAS; the topic will be NMR.

I have represented SAS on the Heritage Council of the Foundation since the Council was formed. It is time for someone else to have that privilege, starting January 1, 2006. I suggest a three-year term for the appointment, with the option of renewal. I plan to continue to serve on the Instruments and Artifacts Committee, at least until the museum opens. My having known, and even worked with, many of the instruments in the collection when they were new and state-of-the-art can be very helpful to the Foundation's staff who have the day-to-day responsibilities for the collection and the museum.



Rina Dukor (left) makes remarks after receiving her SAS Distinguished Service Award at the SAS Wine and Cheese Reception at 32nd FACSS in Quebec, Canada. SAS President Cynthia Mahan enjoys the comments.