



September 2011

2011 NYSAS STUDENT AWARD CEREMONY AND ANNUAL CRUISE

by Xujin Lu

The New York section of SAS hosted its 2011 Student Award Ceremony on June 25th. It was a combined event with a cruise along the Hudson River near West Point, New York. A group of spectroscopists and family members participated and enjoyed the gorgeous weather and the spectacular view along the river. They also celebrated on the boat during the cruise and congratulated the award recipients.



The SAS New York Section Student Award is presented each year to outstanding graduate and undergraduate students who have conducted research in applied spectroscopy. For this year, the Graduate Student Award winner is Christopher N. Young from SUNY at Stony Brook. The Undergraduate Student Award winner is Jenny Marie T. Wong from SUNY at Buffalo.



NYSAS Chair Dr. Seetha (left) presents the Graduate Student Award to Chris Young.

Chris Young's research focuses on the studies of polymer degradation using vibrational and X-ray spectroscopy. As a PhD candidate under the guidance of Professor Clive R. Clayton in the Department of Material Science and Engineering, Chris has investigated the pathway of polymer degradation due to environmental effects and chemical exposure. He employed ATR-FTIR and Raman microspectroscopies, photoacoustic FTIR, as well as state-of-the-art combined confocal Raman/scanning probe microscopy. His work has led to unique and insightful analysis of both composite materials and military coating systems.

Jenny Wong is a senior in the Department of Chemistry at SUNY at Buffalo. She is commended by the SUNY Buffalo faculty for excellent performance in classes and campus activities, as well as involvement in a number of undergraduate research projects, including the NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates program, and the use of Time-of-Flight Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometry (TOF-SIMS),

Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM), and Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) for characterization of semiconductors, spintronic materials, and hydrogel polymers.

The student awards celebration has been sponsored for years by the US Military Academy at West Point, NY. This is a NYSAS traditional activity with excellent participation by the members. Approximately thirty people attended the event this year.

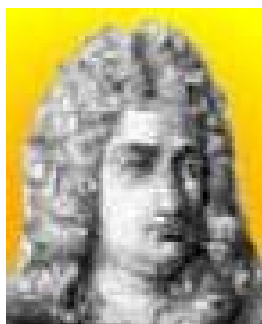
September Historical Events in Spectroscopy by Leopold May, Catholic University

September 8, 1966 First "Star Trek" telecast appeared on this day.

September 9, 1929 The discovery of Konel, a cobalt-nickel alloy, was announced on this date by Westinghouse Laboratories.

September 13, 1937 Polaroid Corporation was incorporated on this date.

September 14, 1698



The birthday of Charles F. de Cisternay DuFay who discovered positive and negative electricity and repulsion between like charges and named them "vitreous" and "resinous". He did research in phosphorescence and double refraction.

September 15, 1968 McCarthy Scientific Company was founded on this day.

September 20, 1842



James Dewar, who invented the vacuum flask (Dewar flask) in 1892, was born on this day. In 1899, he was the first to liquefy hydrogen. He showed that many common substances phosphoresce at liquid air temperature and discovered cordite with Frederick A. Abel.

Comments to david.butcher@Tanalytchem.org