



American Chemical Society
Division of the History of Chemistry

Newsletter

231st ACS National Meeting
Atlanta, GA
March 26-30, 2006

J. S. Jeffers, Program Chair

DIVISION OF THE HISTORY OF CHEMISTRY

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Message from Jeff Seeman, HIST Division Chair

HIST is surely on the move! There are many highlights to share in this message: HIST's expanded website with information about upcoming symposia, HIST's expanded awards and recognition programs, HIST's own history, even special messages during campaign season from candidates for ACS President-Elect. Please place HIST in your favorites listing at <http://www.scs.uiuc.edu/~mainzv/HIST/>. You can also easily find us by typing into Google or even Windows Explorer address line HIST ACS. Vera Mainz, HIST's Secretary/Treasurer since 1995, is our webmaster and is the primary mover in its enhancements and development.

HIST's expanded ACS national and regional meeting programming has expanded significantly over the past few years. One highlight has been a number of Presidential Symposia that HIST has originated and organized. These include: "Responding to Changing Needs in U. S. Doctoral Education" (August 2004); "Transitions in the U. S. Chemical Profession in the 20th Century: Crisis, Turning Points and Their Resolutions" (August 2005); and our currently planned series of four symposia, the first "Pharmaceutical Research and Development over the Past 25 Years: Investment in Basic Research Leading to Benefits for Society," being held in Atlanta in March 2006: Mary Virginia Orna has conceived of this series and is the main organizer.

2006 marks the 50th Anniversary of the Dexter Award and its successor, the Sidney M. Edelstein Award. Edelstein was Secretary/Treasurer of HIST from 1948-1965; he originated and sponsored the Dexter Award. The Sidney M. Edelstein Award is now sponsored by the Ruth and Sam Barish family, Ruth being Sidney's daughter. HIST will have a major 50th Anniversary Celebration at the ACS National meeting in September 2006. A symposium, panel discussions, and celebratory dinner are planned. Tony Travis is spearheading these festivities.

And on the horizon, HIST is planning to celebrate its own 85th birthday with a special symposium in 2007. Jim Bohning, HIST's Archivist and Historian, is leading this event. Jim is also actively working on HIST's archives and is in the process of completing a series of major papers to be published in the *Bulletin for the History of Chemistry* on HIST's history. I am eagerly awaiting these scholarly works.

Perhaps most unusual for HIST in 2005 was our initiation of the 1st Fall ACS National Meeting Concert, held in Washington, DC. Victoria Bragin, a noted pianist and previously professor of chemistry, performed a number of pieces including chemist-composer Anelxander Borodin's "Au Couvent" and the Scherzo in A-flat. A highlight was her highly personalized conversation with the audience about Borodin's chemistry and his music.

HIST has been pleased with its continuing high level interactions with the Chemical Heritage Foundation. Over the years, Arnold Thackray and his colleagues have been very supportive of HIST in many ways; and HIST, in its part, has been symmetrically supportive to the CHF. HIST invited the CHF to join in the sponsorship of the Bragin concert, and we all both benefited from that interaction and enjoyed it immensely. My thanks and admiration to Arnold and the CHF! (CHF also helps sponsor some of HIST's award programs, too. Thanks again!)

I want to especially compliment Paul Jones and the Associate Editors of the *Bulletin for the History of Chemistry*, Mary Ellen Bowden, Carman Giunta, and Leo Slater. The *Bulletin* continues to be the elite scholarly journal for the history of chemistry. Its pages are

full of extraordinary research articles. In fact, I ought to be thanking and congratulating the authors!

Lastly, and with the sincerest of pleasures, I again congratulate Bill Jensen for his receipt of the 2005 Sidney M. Edelstein Award. Bill has made enormous contributions to the field and to HIST for decades. We are proud to have such scholars among us!

Please check out our website for many things I have not mentioned!

All the best,
Jeff

Report of Councilors, Division of the History of Chemistry ACS National Meeting, Washington, DC August 31, 2005

Elections to the elected committees of the Society took place after approval of the minutes from the San Diego meeting. Elected to the Committee on Committees for the term 2006-2008 were Cherlynlavaughan Bradley, W.H. (Jack) Breazeale, Peter K. Dorhout, Mamie W. Moy and Connie J. Murphy. Elected to the Council Policy Committee were R. Gerald Bass, Martha L. Casey, Janan M. Hayes, Valerie J. Kuck, and Bonnie A. Lawlor. Elected to the Committee on Nominations and Elections were Steven A. Fleming, Michelle M. Francl, Peter C. Jurs, Roger A. Parker, and Sara J. Risch.mm

Reports from the Presidential Succession

President William F. Carroll reported on his many activities, mostly in the area of education. He reported that the "Chemistry Teacher Connections," a new collaboration between the *Journal of Chemical Education* and the Chemical Education Division, providing enhanced benefits for high school teachers, was fully launched. President Carroll described himself as the visible face and the credible voice of the Society – and as such he plans an extreme tour of many Local Sections, traveling 13,000 miles during National Chemistry Week. His major thrusts for the remainder of his presidency are public perception, secondary school chemistry education, and the future of the chemical enterprise. He also announced a new ACS initiative – the Chemistry Legal Assistance Network – which will enable members to seek legal advice gratis on a first-time basis due to the pro bono offer of the Division of Chemistry and the Law. After the first consultation, the advisee must make a choice among several options that would involve modest fees.

President-Elect E. Ann Nalley announced that her major efforts will be in the area of public image of chemistry, recognition of volunteers, and involvement of high school teachers in the business of the Society. Her theme for the Washington, DC meeting was "Insuring the Future," and was involved in developing effective programs to enable innovation as an endeavor that has "futuristic" implications. Her theme for San Francisco will be "Collaborations," all the way from K-12 to senior scientists doing basic research. Immediate Past-President Charles P. Casey reiterated the activities that he had already presented in his written report: advocate for increased support for basic scientific research, develop sustainable energy sources, clean the environments, and protect against terrorism.

Other Reports

James D. Burke, the Chair of the Board of Directors, reiterated the full support of the Board for the Chemical Heritage Foundation (CHF) in advancing its mission. CHF is proceeding with significant changes in its governance structure to help insure its long-term success, particularly as to how it relates to ACS and to the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE). ACS CEO and Executive Director Madeleine Jacobs announced the decision to undertake a complete web reinvention, the establishment and support of the Green Chemistry Institute, the progress (or lack thereof) in negotiating with the NIH and their so-called PubChem initiative in which NIH proposes to duplicate much of what is contained in the CAS database at the taxpayer's expense.

Other Council Action

- The Council was informed that John W. Kozarich had withdrawn as a candidate for President-Elect. The candidates for the fall 2005 ACS national election are

President-Elect 2006

George E. Heinze, Rockland Technimed, Ltd, New York

Catherine T. Hunt, Rohm and Haas Company, Pennsylvania

Directors-at-Large – 2006-2008

James D. Burke, Retired, Rohm and Haas Company, Pennsylvania

Edwin A. Chandross, MaterialsChemistry, LLC, New Jersey

C. Gordon McCarty, Retired, Bayer Corporation; Adjunct Professor
University of South Carolina

Frankie K. Wood-Black, Conoco Phillips, Texas

Director, District III 2006-2008

Catherine C. Fenselau, University of Maryland

Madeleine M. Joullié, University of Pennsylvania

Director, District VI, 2006-2008

Bonnie A. Charpentier, Genitope Corporation, California

Stanley H. Pine, California State University

Petition Withdrawn

The Committee on Nominations and Elections withdrew its petition on election procedures prior to the spring national meeting. This action was to allow the committee to discuss further the issues raised by the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws and to solicit additional input from councilors and other members. The withdrawn petition appeared in the agenda for information only.

Registration Report and 2006 National Meeting Registration Fee

As of August 30, 2005, the ACS fall national meeting had attracted 13,040 registrants as follows: Regular attendees 7,584; Students 2,715; Guests 478; Exhibit Only 468; and Exhibitors 1,795. The 2006 national meeting registration fee of \$305 was announced.

Membership Statistics

The Council was informed that as of July 31, 2005, total ACS membership was 155,567. This is an increase of 282 over the end of July 2004.

Special Discussion Item

A special discussion item was again put on the Council agenda for this meeting. ACS President William F. Carroll described the process being used to develop a Society vision hypothesis that is to be tested with members, customers, governance and other interested parties. Dr. Carroll described the methods used to get member input at the national meeting. ACS national meeting attendees reported 15 common themes to be considered as important to the Society's future. Dr. Carroll sought Council input on the most frequent themes: diversity, young people, governance, multidisciplinary, globalization and outreach. Councilors then engaged in a thoughtful, yet lively exchange of their vision of the Society's long-term future.

Local Section Action

On the recommendation of the Local Section Activities Committee, the Council approved a petition for change in section territory for the Central New Mexico Local Section. The annexation is intended to improve services to the ACS members in the northern New Mexico area.

Constitution and Bylaws

On the recommendation of the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws, the Council approved revised charter bylaws for new local sections and for international chemical sciences chapters.

Councilor Reports

Mary Virginia Orna continues to serve her second term as a member of the Committee on Committees (ConC). She is also continuing to serve as ConC liaison to the Joint Board-Council Committee on Publications (JBCCP) and the Committee on Technician Affairs (CTA). Ben Chastain continues to serve on the Divisional Activities Committee (DAC), where he is co-chair of the Divisional Enhancement Sub-committee (ChemLuminary Awards and Innovative Project Grants). He is a liaison to the Biological Chemistry Division (BIOL) for DAC and to the Committee on Public Relations and Communication (CPRC) for HIST. He reported to the HIST Executive Committee that an Innovative Project Grant proposal for \$5000 to assist in travel costs for a series of HIST-sponsored Presidential Symposia in 2006-2007 was approved and funded.

Ben B. Chastain, Councilor

Mary Virginia Orna, Councilor

Bulletin for the History of Chemistry

Please note that the last issue of the *Bulletin*, Volume 30(2), which you should have received in the fall, contains cumulative subject and author indices. These indices supersede earlier cumulative indices, cover all contents through 2005, and should assist readers in locating past articles and book reviews of interest. I am grateful to Carmen Giunta for preparing this update. We welcome contributions on history of chemistry and particularly encourage those with an interest in history to come forward as reviewers of manuscripts and books. If your library lacks a subscription to the *Bulletin*, you should encourage your acquisitions librarian to consider one of the best bargains in periodicals.

Paul R. Jones, Editor

HIST is pleased to announce
that
Peter Morris
Science Museum, London
Has been named the 2006 Sidney M. Edelstein Awardee

This Award will be presented at the ACS National Meeting in San Francisco
Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Please join Peter and his friends and colleagues to celebrate this occasion.
And also join us in other celebrations to honor the 50th year of the Dexter and
Edelstein awards.

HIST Awards

*The Sidney M. Edelstein Award for Outstanding Achievement in the History of
Chemistry*

*The HIST Outstanding Paper Award, to recognize and encourage outstanding
scholarship in the history of chemistry. The award is presented to the author of the
best paper published in *The Bulletin for the History of Chemistry* during the previous
three years.*

*The Citations for Chemical Breakthroughs Award, beginning in 2006, will recognize
breakthrough publications and patents worldwide in the field of chemistry.*

HIST Certificate of Appreciation

Information about these awards and past recipients is found on the HIST website.

2006 Committees

Edelstein Award

James Traynham (Chair)
Alan Rocke
Bill Jensen

Outstanding Paper Award

James Marshall (Chair)
David Lewis
Mordecai Rubin

Certificate of Appreciation

HIST Executive Committee and
Leadership Team

Citations for Chemical Breakthroughs

Joseph Fruton
Eugene Garfield
Harry Gray
Margaret Cavanaugh
Judah Ginsburg
Amos Smith
Arnold Thackray
Jeffrey I. Seeman, secretary (non-
voting)

HIST Symposia, 231st ACS Meeting at Atlanta, GA, March 26-28, 2006
Schedules and abstracts are listed at the end of this Newsletter.

“Pharmaceutical Research and Development over the Past 25 Years: Investment in Basic Research Leading to Benefits for Society”

In her first public statement following her election as President-Elect of the American Chemical Society, E. Ann Nalley said that one of her major priorities was to review the progress of research and development over the past 25 years. This symposium, and three others that will follow it at successive ACS National Meetings, is the Division of the History of Chemistry's response to this stated priority since HIST is well-positioned not only to aid in this endeavor but also to bring to fruition some initiatives in this area, recognizing how important it is to place current events and developments in their historical contexts as the only way that the trajectory of chemical research over the past quarter of a century can be understood, and the only way that future directions can be extrapolated from what we have learned.

This Presidential Symposium, co-sponsored by HIST, will take place on **Monday morning, March 27**. Among the goals of the symposium are the following: to draw to the attention of students and professional chemists the vital importance of reviewing our past in order to educate our present and inspire our future, and to honor the heroes and heroines of chemistry who have dedicated themselves to building a better world through chemical research.

Paul Anderson of DuPont-Pharma and a Past-President of the ACS will lead off the symposium with a retrospective look at drug discovery, emphasizing the importance of understanding molecular structure and its relationship to biological activity in the evolution from adventitious discovery to a formal process for drug discovery. Continuing this theme, Arthur Daemrich of the Chemical Heritage Foundation will look at trajectories in pharmaceutical R&D, Dennis Liotta of Emory University will discuss the emerging impact of research universities on drug discovery, Roy Vagelos of Merck will demonstrate how long-term investments in research can benefit society, and Cynthia Maryanoff of R.W. Johnson Pharmaceutical Research Institute will focus on safety in the emerging disciplines of drug synthesis, pharmaceutical formulation, and design of manufacturing processes.

Mary Virginia Orna and Jeff Seeman, Organizers

“Science History and Its Applications to Chemical Education”

This symposium is a follow-up to our previous BCCE symposium, which included ways chemical history can be used to teach chemical principles, the right and wrong ways to apply history, tips on convincing colleagues that history is important in chemical education, and sources for the use of history in chemistry courses. The aim of the current symposium is to broaden the topic beyond chemical history and also include other subjects utilized in chemical education. The first session will include talks focusing on ways to include the history of chemistry in either traditional chemistry classes or via non-traditional activities, while the shorter afternoon session will broaden the topic to the application of science history in education. This symposium, offered **Sunday morning and early afternoon, March 26** will

strive to illustrate both the importance of teaching science history in chemical education and ways educators to add history to their current activities.

Seth C. Rasmussen and David E. Lewis, Organizers

“Chemist-Composers: Their Chemistry and Music”

Some chemists have also composed classical music and engaged in the arts in addition to making significant contributions to chemistry. Alexandre P. Borodin, an organic chemist, and Edward Elgar, an amateur chemist, are the most prominent. Others include Lejaren A. Hiller, Jr., polymer chemist, Georges Urbain, an inorganic chemist and a painter and sculptor, Emil Votoček, organic chemist, and Elaine L. Bearer, biochemist, who will talk about her work and music. The symposium will provide information about the chemical and musical contributions of these chemist-composers and the relationship between chemistry and music. The symposium will be held **Tuesday afternoon, March 28** and will conclude with a **reception (4:30-6:00)** so the attendees can meet and talk with the speakers about the music and science. It is cosponsored by the Chemical Heritage Foundation and the Chemical Society of Washington.

Leopold May, Organizer

“Chinese American Chemical Society 25th Anniversary Symposium: Sustainable Contributions by Chemical Professionals”

Founded at the ACS National Meeting in Atlanta in 1981, the Chinese-American Chemical Society (CACS) is a nonprofit, professional organization and has neither national nor regional political affiliation. The objectives of CACS are to encourage the advancement of chemistry and engineering in all their branches, to promote research in the chemical sciences and technology, to improve the qualifications and occupational opportunities of its members, to facilitate professional contacts, and to promote interactions with other scientific communities. Membership is open to professionals and students in chemistry, chemical engineering, and related fields, and to individuals and corporations supporting the objectives of the society. Currently, CACS has a total of 5 local chapters in North America. For more information, see the Society’s web page at www.cacshq.org.

This symposium organized by Dr. Yunsheng (Tony) Hsieh of Schering-Plough Research Institute and Professor Winston Ho of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering Department at The Ohio State University is to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the CACS at its founding site at the ACS meeting, and the theme is on sustainable contributions by chemical professionals. The format of the symposium to take place in the afternoon of **Monday, March 27, 2006** consists of VIP presentations by CACS President, ACS President, AIChE (American Institute of Chemical Engineers) President, and President of Chemical Heritage Foundation (each for about 10 minutes). After the VIP presentations, there are four invited Keynote Lectures (each for about 35 minutes) by Dr. Norman N. Li, President, NL Chemical Technology, Inc., on “Water Treatment and Reuse by Membrane Technology”, Dr. Chi-Huey Wong, Professor, The Scripps Research Institute, on “New Tools for Carbohydrate-

based Drug Discovery”, Dr. Hai-Lung Dai, Professor, University of Pennsylvania, on “Science Education, Research, and Society – The Perspectives of an Immigrant Research Scientist and Teacher”, and Dr. L. S. Fan, Professor, The Ohio State University, with his lecture title of “On the Clean Fossil Energy Conversion Systems”. The Keynote presenters are internationally well-known scientists, and most of them are members of the National Academies of USA and/or Academia Sinica. Following this symposium/celebration, we will have a banquet for all of our invited speakers and our CACS members and guests in the evening.

Yunsheng Hsieh and W. S. Winston Ho, Organizers

HIST Co-Sponsored Events

Archaeological Chemistry: Analytical Techniques and Archaeological Interpretation. (Co-sponsored with **NUCL**) **Sunday and Monday, March 26-27**, a.m. and p.m., Michael D. Glascock, Research Reactor Center, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211. Phone: (573) 8825270, FAX: (573) 882-6360, Email: glascockm@missouri.edu

Implications of Sugar Ring Conformations in Drug Design: A Symposium in Memory of Muttaiya Sundaralingam (Co-sponsored with **CARB**, **MEDI**, **ORGN**) **Sunday, March 26**, a.m., Joseph J. Barchi Jr., Laboratory of Medicinal Chemistry, CCR, NCI, NIH, Bidg.376 Boyles Street, Frederick, MD 21702, Phone: 301-846-5905, Fax: 301-846-6033, barchi@helix.nih.gov. Todd L. Lowary, Department of Chemistry and Alberta Ingenuity Centre for Carbohydrate Science, University of Alberta, Gunning-Lemieux Chemistry Centre, Edmonton, AB T6G 2G2 Canada, Phone: 780-492-1861, Fax: 780-492-7705, tlowary@ualberta.ca

UPCOMING NATIONAL MEETINGS AND HIST DEADLINES

Offerings are subject to change. Check the HIST website for updates:

<http://www.scs.uiuc.edu/~mainzv/HIST/>

San Francisco, September 10-14, 2006

Submit your abstract via the ACS Electronic Submission System by **April 15, 2006**. If you do not have access to a computer for use in the submission, contact the program chair by April 1, 2006. Check the call for papers in Chemical and Engineering News or the ACS website for changes in the abstract deadlines.

General Papers. Joe Jeffers, Ouachita Baptist University, 410 Ouachita Street, Box 3786, Arkadelphia, AR 71998-0001, Phone: (870) 245-5216, Fax: (870) 245-5241, Email: jeffers@obu.edu

Edelstein Award Symposium Honoring Peter Morris (*invited only*). Joe Jeffers, Ouachita Baptist University, 410 Ouachita Street, Box 3786, Arkadelphia, AR 71998-0001, Phone: (870) 245-5216, Fax: (870) 245-5241, Email: jeffers@obu.edu

Celebrating a Legacy: Fifty years of the Dexter and Edelstein Awards. Anthony Travis, Sidney M. Edelstein Center for the History and Philosophy of Science, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel. travis@cc.huji.ac.il. Jeff Seeman, SaddlePoint Frontiers, 12001 Bollingbrook Place, Richmond, VA 23236, Phone: (804) 794-1218, Email: jiseeman@yahoo.com

Health Materials and Techniques: Research and Development over the Past 25 Years: Investment in Basic Research Leading to Benefits for Society. Mary Virginia Orna, Department of Chemistry, College of New Rochelle, New Rochelle, NY 10805, Phone: (914) 654-5302, Fax: (914) 654-5387, Email: mvorna@cnr.edu. The second of four cutting-edge symposia reviewing industrial and academic R&D progress over the past 25 years to be presented at the four ACS National Meetings in 2006-2007 in conjunction with the Presidential-succession goals of ACS President Ann Nalley.

History of the FDA in its Hundredth year. Kim M. Morehouse, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, HFS-245, 5100 Paint Branch Parkway, College Park, MD 20740, Phone: 301-436-1889, Fax (301) 436-2634, Email: Kim.Morehouse@FDA.HHS.GOV.

Classic Chemistry Books of the Twentieth Century II: Organic Chemistry. (Co-sponsored with the Bolton Society) Ned Heindel, Department of Chemistry, Lehigh University, 6 East Packer Avenue, Bethlehem, PA 18015, Phone: (610) 758-3464, Fax: (610) 758-3461, Email: ndh0@lehigh.edu

Chicago, March 25-29, 2007

HIST at 85: Looking Back and Looking Ahead. James J. Bohning, Department of Chemistry, Lehigh University, 6 E. Packer Ave, Bethlehem, PA 18015; Jeffrey I. Seeman, SaddlePoint Frontiers, 12001 Bollingbrook Place, Richmond, VA 23236

History and Current Focus of the Gordon Research Conferences. Arthur Daemmrich, Center for Contemporary History and Policy, Chemical Heritage Foundation, 315 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106

Landmark Stable Free Radicals of the 20th Century. E. Thomas Strom, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Texas at Arlington, P. O. Box 19065, Arlington, TX 76019-0065, Phone: (817) 272-5441, Fax: 817-272-3808, Email: tomstrom@juno.com.

Reviewing Research and Development Progress over the Past 25 Years III. Mary Virginia Orna, Department of Chemistry, College of New Rochelle, New Rochelle, NY 10805, Phone: (914) 654-5302, Fax: (914) 654-5387, Email: mvorna@cnr.edu. The third of four

cutting-edge symposia reviewing industrial and academic R&D progress over the past 25 years to be presented at the four ACS National Meetings in 2006-2007 in conjunction with the Presidential-succession goals of 2006 ACS President Ann Nalley.

The Landmarks Program: Celebrating the History of Chemistry. Judah Ginsberg, American Chemical Society, 115 16th Street, Washington, DC 20036, Phone: (202) 872-6274, Fax: (202) 872-4370, Email: j_ginsberg@acs.org.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE HISTORICAL GROUP OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY

The Historical Group exists to encourage an interest in the history of chemistry and chemical industry among members of the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) and others. Membership is open to non-members of the RSC and embraces a wide range from those whose interest in the history of chemistry is a hobby to teachers of chemistry at all levels and professional historians. The Group holds twice yearly meetings when academic papers are read and discussed. Summaries of papers read at these meetings are included in the Historical Group Newsletter along with reviews of recent books in the subject and news of other meetings and forthcoming events. The Newsletter is published twice yearly. Contributions of not more than 500 words on topics of current interest in the history of chemistry are invited for inclusion at the discretion of the Editor. For more information, go to <http://www.chem.qmul.ac.uk/rschg/>. For membership forms, contact Dr. John Hudson, membership secretary, johnhudson25@hotmail.com. Forms are also available from Joe Jeffers, HIST Program Chair, jeffers@obu.edu.

Notes and Updates

New MA Degree in Western Esotericism at Exeter: Historians of alchemy and chemistry will be intrigued to learn that the School of Humanities & Social Studies at the University of Exeter is launching a new MA degree in Western Esotericism in September 2005 under the direction of Professor Nicholas Goodricke-Clarke, the author of *Black Sun: Aryan Cults, Esoteric Nazism and the Politics of Identity* (2002) and *The Occult Roots of Nazism* (2004), as well as *Paracelsus* (1999). The course, which includes a compulsory historical survey of Western esoteric traditions and the social, religious and philosophical changes that have been conducive to esotericism, offers special optional units on Alexandrian hermeticism, the hermetic art of alchemy, Rosicrucianism and Freemasonry, and German Nature Philosophy. Students will also be required to write a research-based dissertation.

The Beckman Center is the historical unit of the Chemical Heritage Foundation, which is located next to Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia. The Center supports independent research aimed at preserving and publishing the history of the chemical and molecular sciences and industries for diverse audiences. For information about the variety of research and travel fellowships available, please visit the CHF website (www.chemheritage.org) or email fellowships@chemheritage.org. Closing dates for applications usually fall in January or February each year.

The Future of the Wilhelm Ostwald Memorial

Historians of chemistry were concerned to learn in March that the Wilhelm Ostwald Memorial house at Grossbothen near Leipzig was to be closed down. Ostwald purchased the country house at Grossbothen that he named "Energie" in 1901 and it was here that he wrote some of his textbooks on physical chemistry, philosophical and historical books, and carried out his investigations into theories of colour and painting. Ostwald died in 1932 and in 1953 his heirs donated the estate to the former Akademie der Wissenschaften in the German Democratic Republic on the condition that the house should be kept as a public memorial to Ostwald and that the Academy should edit and publish his remaining papers. Following German reunification, the care of the memorial was assumed by a society, the Wilhelm-Ostwald-Gesellschaft zu Grossbothen, with funding provided by the State Department of Science and Art of Saxony. The latter has withdrawn its grant because the memorial site has not proved sufficiently attractive to visitors and income earned from historical meetings and the sales of Ostwald's work has been less than fifty percent of the government's grant. The Minister of Science and Culture has, accordingly, concluded that the concept of "Energie" as a museum is not truly viable.

The Saxon government hopes to form a consortium of organizations (such as the University of Leipzig, the Saxony Academy of Sciences, and various other scientific and cultural societies) that will devise a plan for the future of Ostwald's estate. The intention would be to create funding for the care and editing of Ostwald's papers, and to replace the present memorial by a research and conference centre with a broader remit that includes the popularisation of science. The government insists that all of the rooms in the old house with Ostwald's original furniture, library and apparatus would be retained as an attraction. Assuming that a viable management plan is possible to achieve, it is likely to take several years before the new Ostwald Centre materialises. The plan should, however, diminish the fears of historians of chemistry that one of its important heritage sites was to be lost for ever.

The National Brewing Library at Oxford Brookes University

In 2002, as fall-out from major restructuring of the brewing industry, the long established libraries of a number of trade organisations and former brewers were brought together at Oxford Brookes University. These collections form the core of the National Brewing Library (NBL) which, in addition to long runs of scientific, technical and trade journals, comprises more than 4,500 individual items.

Around 2,000 items are not found in the catalogues of the British or other major libraries. Some of these items appear unique; others are industry reports, foreign language publications, company and pub histories etc., which would not normally be held in libraries, although they may not be rare within the industry. The NBL Catalogue, for the first time, brings these diverse books and documents together to provide an extensive resource for both social and technical science researchers.

The library contains all the major 18th – 20th century texts on brewing science and technology, giving a continuous history of the development of the industry and the early years of yeast research, which stems mainly from the fermentation industry.

Much broader than its title suggests, the library contains a wide range of works on other UK fermented beverages (whisky, cider, wine, etc.) and their associated technologies. Also,

through historical interaction with government and pressure groups, the library contains extensive sections on licensing law, alcohol and health and the temperance movement.

The library is not a closed collection. Through its sponsoring bodies it has an active acquisition policy to fill gaps and obtain new material to ensure continuing relevance.

NBL Catalogue and Access

The NBL is a reference library. The NBL Catalogue and access details are available at <http://www.brookes.ac.uk/services/library/speccoll/brewing.html>.

Professor John Stock, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Connecticut, died at the age of 94 on 6 February 2005 after a brief illness. He will be remembered as an exceptional chemist, and a celebrated chemical historian and educator. After many outstanding years of research and teaching analytical chemistry and its history, he retired in 1979. He remained an active scholar in the history of chemistry, both in Connecticut and at the Science Museum in London, of which he was an honorary research fellow. His 2004 publication, *Pilgrim's Progress – the London Science Museum*, surveys the development of the museum since his first visit in 1919. An obituary appears in *In the Loop* (SCI Members' Forum), issue 11, March 2005.

Katherine D. Watson, Editor

The Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry

The Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry caters for all those who are interested in the history of the chemical sciences or alchemy. It publishes a learned journal, *Ambix*, three times per year, and holds two one-day conferences each year, usually in London. See <http://www.ambix.org>. For details of how to join the Society, please see the on-line form (follow the links from the main page), or contact the Treasurer and Membership Secretary: Dr Noel Coley, 24 Kayemoor Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM2 5HT [n.g.coley@surrey28.freeserve.co.uk].

Partington Prize 2005

In April the Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry awarded the 2005 Partington Prize to Dane T. Daniel, a postdoctoral fellow at the Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology, MIT, for his essay entitled "Rethinking Paracelsus' Concept of Body and Matter". The Partington Prize, which was established in memory of Professor James Riddick Partington, the Society's first chairman, is awarded every three years for an original and unpublished essay on any aspect of the history of alchemy or chemistry. It is open to anyone with a scholarly interest in the history of alchemy or chemistry who has not reached 35 years of age, or if older, has completed a doctoral thesis in the history of science within the previous three years.

John Dee and Alchemy

The spring meeting of the Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry was held on 28 May 2005 at the Department of English, Birkbeck College, Russell Square, London. This building previously housed the Royal Institute for Chemistry and Dr Stephen Clucas, who

was chairing the meeting, began the day by drawing attention to some of the building's interesting architectural features and their links to chemistry. The four papers delivered at the meeting will be published in *Ambix*, the journal for the Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry, in November 2005. Details on subscribing to the journal can be found on www.ambix.org

Forthcoming Meetings

Innovation in Industrial Chemistry, 28 April 2006

The second Anglo-Dutch meeting, sponsored jointly by the Historical Group, the Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry, the Historical Group of the Dutch Chemical Society, and the Chilterns and Middlesex Section of the RSC, will be held at the Science Museum in London. Speakers will include David Edgerton, Jack Betteridge, Peter Morris, Keetie Sluyterman, Ernst Homburg and Arjan van Rooij. A provisional programme and a form for indicating preliminary interest in attending have been included with this Newsletter. Further details of charges will be sent to those interested as soon as possible.

American Association for the History of Medicine, 4-7 May 2006

The American Association for the History of Medicine invites submissions in any area of medical history for its 79th annual meeting, to be held in Halifax, Canada, 4-7 May 2006. Presentations are limited to 20 minutes. All papers must represent original work not already published or in press. Because the *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* is the official journal of the AAHM, the Association encourages speakers to make their manuscripts available for consideration by the *Bulletin*. All applicants are encouraged to use the online abstract submission system, the website is: <http://histmed.org>. Abstracts should clearly state findings and conclusions as well as research questions, and must be received by 15 September 2005.

1st European Chemistry Conference, Budapest, 27-31 August 2006

For general information on the conference, see: <http://www.fecs-budapest2006.hu/>. Historical sessions are being organised by Gerhard Pohl (Linz, Austria), Anita Honkala (Oulu, Finland) and Peter Childs (Limerick, Ireland), on the history of chemical education, and the history of chemistry in chemical education; by D. Thorburn Burns (Belfast, Northern Ireland), on the history of analytical chemistry; and by Eva Vamos (Budapest), Sona Strbanova (Prague) and Maria Rentetzi (Berlin), on chemical landmarks and chemical heritage. For the British activities in this field, see: <http://www.rsc.org/lap/publicaf/landmarks.htm>.