



American Chemical Society  
Division of the History of Chemistry

**Newsletter**

240th ACS National Meeting  
Boston, MA  
August 22-26, 2010

S. C. Rasmussen, Program Chair

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## Mission Statement

The Division of the History of Chemistry ([HIST](http://www.scs.uiuc.edu/~mainzv/HIST/) - <http://www.scs.uiuc.edu/~mainzv/HIST/>) of the American Chemical Society (ACS) seeks to advance knowledge and appreciation of the history of the chemical sciences among chemists, students, historians of science, and the broader public by

- Encouraging research and scholarship in history of the chemical sciences;
- Providing a welcoming environment for the discussion of history of chemistry in a variety of venues, particularly in symposia at national ACS meetings;
- Serving as a resource for chemical scientists in general, and members of the ACS in particular, who seek to understand the roots of their discipline, sub-discipline, or interdisciplinary subject;
- Recognizing major achievements from the past in the chemical sciences and the individuals who made those achievements;
- Publishing a scholarly journal in history of chemistry;
- Interacting with other organizations interested in the history of science; and
- Adding value to the ACS by helping it achieve its vision and missions.

## Message from Jan Hayes, HIST Division Chair

It is hard to believe that this is my last newsletter report to you as chair of HIST. Thank you all for being a part of this wonderful part of ACS. The past two years have been a time of change for HIST, for ACS, and for most of us as professionals and individuals.

What has happened and what is coming for HIST?

**First - Meeting programming:** Seth Rasmussen has done a wonderful job as our new program chair. He has tried to encourage new and different programming for our national meetings. I encourage each of you to work with him to bring new symposia into our future national meetings and to regional meetings. **Archeological Chemistry** symposia have been a reoccurring feature in HIST. There is a group interested in organizing the Twelfth Symposium. Are you interested in being a part of this? If so, please contact Joe Lambert, Ruth Ann Armitage, James Burton, Kathryn Jakes ([kjakes@ehe.osu.edu](mailto:kjakes@ehe.osu.edu)), and/or Tom Strom, 2011 HIST Chair ([tomstrom@juno.com](mailto:tomstrom@juno.com)). We would like to add cosponsoring divisions, so we need your help. Spring 2009 ACS meeting was the initial presentation of a planned semi-regular series of symposia on the **Science and Legacy of Former ACS Presidents**. The first program was honoring Henry Eyring of the University of Utah. At the upcoming Fall 2010, HIST will present, with co-sponsor WCC, the second of the series honoring Anna Jane Harrison of Mt. Holyoke College, the first woman ACS president. See below for a more complete description of the Harrison symposium. We welcome your attendance and invite your participation by sharing your remembrances of Dr. Harrison. Plans are underway for three addition symposium. More details later. **Regional meeting** programming is an arena in which we would like to be more active. At the December 2010 Joint SouthEast/SouthWest Regional Meeting in New Orleans we will be sponsoring a symposium honoring Jack Stocker. Come and be a part of this remembrance of our faithful HIST member. HIST is also cooperating with the graduate students at MIT in presenting **Chemistry and Policy: Solving Problems at the Interface** on Monday, August 23, 1:30pm at the Seaport Hotel, Plaza Ballroom A. We will also be a part of the Graduate Student reception on Sunday evening.



**Second – New Bulletin Editor:** We are pleased to announce that Carmen Guinta, a current associate editor of the Bulletin, has agreed to follow Paul Jones and become our new Bulletin Editor. There are insufficient words to express our gratitude to Paul for his leadership and hard work as the Editor. We know that Carmen will continue in reaching the high standards which are referred journal have reached. But Paul promises he will not go away but still stay active in HIST as this assignment closes. **Thank you Paul.**

**Third – Awards:** As you may be aware, no Edelstein Award will be given in 2010 as a result of changes in funding. Starting in 2010, we will change the title of this award to the HIST Award for Outstanding Achievement in the History of Chemistry, established by Sidney M. Edelstein, with support from Vera Mainz and Gregory Girolami and the Chemical Heritage Foundation. Check this website in a few weeks for details on nominations for the 2011 HIST Award. We are continuing with our other two awards for Outstanding Papers in *The Bulletin* and recognitions of Citations for Chemical Breakthroughs

**Fourth – Elections:** A nomination committee is now working in preparation for a Fall 2010 election for Chair Elect 2011-12 (who will become chair for 2013-14); Secretary-Treasurer; and Councilor. If you have interest in sharing your talents with your division, please contact me. Again, thank you for your support. I look forward to continuing to serve you as Past Chair in support of Tom Strom as 2011 chair. **HIST is your division to meet your needs for your professional and personal interests. Let us hear from you on how we can better serve you.**

*Jan Hayes, 2009/2010 HIST Chair*

### **Message from Tom Strom, HIST Division Chair-Elect**

I am feeling a little intimidated by the thought that I will become Chair of HIST this next January 1. The intimidation factor comes about because of the high quality of preceding chairs, such as Jan Hayes, Roger Egolf, and Jeff Seeman, to name just the three most recent. However, I reflect that, with the wonderful slate of HIST officers, both present and those to be elected, and with the diverse, intelligent group of HIST members, I can't go very far wrong.

My goals are the expected ones of increasing the numbers in and visibility of HIST. Surely all of you share those goals and are willing to help HIST achieve them. I think we can partner with other divisions to present and celebrate their individual histories. The Baekeland symposium of last spring, which POLY and PMSE co-sponsored, and the upcoming "Pioneers of Quantum Chemistry" symposium, co-sponsored by COMP and PHYS, can be models for partnerships of this type.

One ongoing concern that I have are the relatively small numbers of contributed papers. The contributed papers this spring went up over those from last fall, but the number for Boston has declined again. I think EVERY member of HIST has an oral presentation lurking in his/her consciousness. It might involve a mentor, a colleague, an institution, a research path, a book, an instrument, etc. It's there if you dig deep, and remember, with HIST you can be sure of an oral presentation.

Please contact me via e-mail at ([tomstrom@juno.com](mailto:tomstrom@juno.com)) to share your ideas. I look forward to meeting many of you personally in the next few years.

*E. Thomas (Tom) Strom, HIST Chair-Elect*



## **Report of Councilors, Division of the History of Chemistry ACS National Meeting, San Francisco, CA, March 24, 2010**

### **Election Results**

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented to the Council the following nominees for selection as candidates for President-Elect, 2011: Luis A. Echegoyen, John P. Fackler, Jr., and Bassam Z. Shakhshiri. A fourth candidate withdrew on February 3 for personal reasons. At that time, the Committee on Nominations and Elections voted to continue the search for a replacement nominee based on the ranking previously developed by the Committee. Committee action specified that if no replacement nominee was found by March 12, 2010, then the original nominee list and biographical data, without the nominee who withdrew, would be sent to the Council. As no nominee was identified, three nominees were presented. By electronic ballot, the Council selected Luis A. Echegoyen and Bassam Z. Shakhshiri as candidates for 2011 President-Elect. These two candidates, along with any candidates selected via petitions, will stand for election in the Fall National Election.
- The Committee on Nominations and Elections announced the results of the election to select candidates from the list of nominees to represent District II and District IV on the Board of Directors for the term 2011-2013. Nominees for District II included: George M. Bodner, Andrew D. Jorgensen, V. Michael Mautino, and Joseph R. Peterson. Nominees for District IV included John W. Finley, Larry K. Krannich, Will E. Lynch, and Ingrid Montes. By mail ballot, the Councilors from these districts selected George M. Bodner and Joseph R. Peterson as District II candidates; and Larry K. Krannich and Will E. Lynch as District IV candidates. Ballots will be mailed on or before October 10 to all members in District II and District IV for election of a Director from each District.

### **Candidates for Directors-at-Large**

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections announced the selection of the following candidates for Directors-at-Large for a 2011-2013 term: Janan M. Hayes, Robert L. Lichter, Kathleen M. Schulz, and Kent J. Voorhees. The election of two Directors-at-Large will be conducted in the fall. Ballots will be mailed to the Council on or before October 10.

### **Petitions to Amend the Constitution and Bylaws (For Action)**

- The Council received three amendments to the ACS Constitution and Bylaws for action: The Petition on Admissions Committee, the Petition on Candidate Selection by Member Petition, and the Petition on Election Timelines 2009.
- The Council VOTED to approve the Petition on Admissions Committee. This petition removes the Admission Committee from the Bylaws and transfers its functions to the Council Committee on Membership Affairs.
- After considerable debate, a motion to approve the Petition on Candidate Selection by Member Petition FAILED. The Petition on Candidate Selection by Member Petition would have amended the Constitution to emphasize that candidates selected by a petition process from members will have no further screening.
- The Council also thoroughly debated the merits of the Petition on Election Timelines 2009. The motion to approve this petition FAILED. The Petition on Election Timelines 2009 would have shortened certain national election timelines.

- The Board of Directors will vote within 90 days on whether to ratify the Petition on Admissions Committee.

### **Petitions (For Consideration)**

- The Council received three petitions for consideration: The Petition on International Chemical Sciences Chapters, Petition on President-Elect Eligibility, and Petition on Recorded Votes. The Petition on International Chemical Sciences Chapters provides for travel funds for either the Chair or Chair-Elect of International Chemical Sciences Chapters to attend governance meetings at twice the amount allotted for a Councilor. The Petition on President-Elect Eligibility requires that nominees or candidates for President-Elect come from an academic background every other election, and that only those from non-academic backgrounds would be eligible in the alternate years. The Petition on Recorded Votes provides for additional voting methods, e.g., clickers that have been recently used at Council meetings, when conducting recorded votes. Action is expected on these petitions at the fall Council meeting.

### **The Society's Finances**

- The Council and Board of Directors learned that the Society's total 2009 revenue (\$460 million) was up +1% from 2008, but fell short of the 2009 approved budget by \$19.5 million or 4.1%. Fortunately, the revenue shortfall was fully anticipated in early 2009. Therefore, contingency planning actions and cost containment initiatives were implemented across the Society, resulting in expense savings totaling \$22.5 million. Significant reductions were realized in salaries and fringe benefits, and in discretionary accounts such as travel, training, and professional services. As a result, the Society's Net Return from Operations was \$13.7 million, or \$3.0 million greater than anticipated in the 2009 Approved Budget.
- Unrestricted Net Assets rebounded in 2009 to approximately \$124 million, from a previous \$60 million at the end of 2008. The significant increase can be attributed to the favorable operating results, investment gains, and a net reduction in the Society's post-retirement benefit plan liabilities. The Society ended the year in compliance with four of the five Board-established financial guidelines. The Fund Balance Ratio Guideline, which measures the adequacy of the Society's unrestricted net assets, was not met. The financial outlook for 2010 is better, and ACS management expects the Society to meet the 2010 approved budget.

### **2011 Member Dues**

- The Council VOTED to set the member dues for 2011 at the fully escalated rate of \$146. This rate is established pursuant to an inflation-adjustment formula in the ACS Constitution and Bylaws.

### **Local Section Allotment Calculator**

- The Council VOTED to continue for three years the current formula for determining allotments to local sections.

### **Member Statistics**

- At the close of 2009, Society membership totaled 161,783 compared to 154,024 for year-end 2008. The number of new membership applications received last year was the highest ever. The 2009 number also reflects the transition of 6,658 former Student Affiliates to the new student member category in June 2009 and the recruitment of 6,341 new student member undergraduates.

### **Attendance Report**

- As of March 24, 2010, the ACS spring national meeting had attracted 18,076 registrants as follows: Regular attendees, 9,715; Students, 5,705; Exhibitors, 1,219; Exposition only, 923; and Guests, 514.

### **Board Committees and Task Force Actions**

- The Executive Committee closely examined its role and that of the Planning Committee, and concluded that both committees add value and are important to the overall work of the Board of Directors.
- The Committee on Grants and Awards presented the Board with a screened list of nominees for the 2011 Priestley Medal, the Volunteer Service Award, and the Parsons Award. The Board agreed to review the screened list and announce the winners of these three awards after its June meeting.
- The Board's Committee on Planning met with the Board in executive session. At that point, the Board Chair announced that the Board of Directors had VOTED to grant full voting rights on the Planning Committee to the chairs of the Committees on Local Section Activities and Divisional Activities. (CPC & B&F already vote.) The committee and the Board then discussed the results of an external environmental scan and offered suggestions that could be used to refine the Society's Strategic Plan for 2011 and Beyond. The committee and the Board also reviewed the committee's role and considered some modifications to its charge and to its frequency of meetings.
- The Board received a report from the President's Task Force on Diversity Reports. The task force was charged with assessing the recommendations from the diversity workshop reports in the context of current efforts and committees of the Society, and developing a road map for the implementation of the recommendations. The task force also urged that the ACS move into a leadership role in promoting the education, professional development, and inclusion and equity of present and future generations of chemical professionals that reflect the diversity of America. The Presidential succession and the full Board VOTED to refer the task force report to the Board Standing Committee on Professional and Member Relations for prioritization, assignment of accountability, and development of implementation timelines, and discharged the task force with sincere thanks for its excellent work.

### **The Executive Director/CEO Report**

- The Executive Director/CEO, along with several of her direct reports, updated the Board on the activities of Chemical Abstracts Service, the Publications Division, and the Society's General Counsel. As a follow-up, the Board VOTED to approve a new appointment and three reappointments of journal editors.
- On the recommendation of the ACS Governing Board for Publishing, the Board VOTED to accept a recommendation to authorize an additional member position on the Governing Board whenever additional expertise or perspective would help it execute its duties.

### **Compensation of Society Staff**

- On the recommendation of the Committee on Executive Compensation, the Board VOTED to approve several actions relative to compensation for the Society's Executive staff. The compensation of the Society's executive staff receives regular review from the Board.

## Other Society Issues

- The Board was briefed by its working group monitoring 2010 Board Logistical Training. This plan, which currently includes four broad topic areas, is designed to enhance overall Board effectiveness. The Board also received reports from several international guests representing the following scientific societies: Brazilian Chemical Society, the Chemical Society for Canada, the European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences (EuCheMS), the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC), and the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC).

## Activities of HIST Councilors

**Carmen Giunta** is chair of the Constitution and Bylaws subcommittee of the Divisional Activities Committee (DAC) and liaison from DAC to the Council Committee on Constitution and Bylaws. He participated in meetings of both of those committees. In addition, he is a member of the Committee on Nomenclature, Terminology, and Symbols (NTS), and he participated in its meeting.

**Mary Virginia Orna** is serving the last year of her three-year term on the Council Policy Committee. In this capacity she is also serving as a member of the subcommittee on Long-Range Planning and the subcommittee on Constitution and Bylaws. If nominated by the Committee on Nominations and Elections, she will be eligible to run for re-election for another three-year term.

*Carmen Giunta, Mary Virginia Orna, Councilors*

## Bulletin for the History of Chemistry

This is to notify HIST members and library subscribers that Carmen J. Giunta will succeed Paul R. Jones as editor of the Bulletin for the History of Chemistry, effective January 1, 2011. He will become the third editor of this HIST periodical, which was founded in 1988 by William B. Jensen. Dr. Jensen served as editor until 1995, when Dr. Jones was appointed to the post.

After the publication of the Fall 2010 issue of the Bulletin (volume 35, number 2), all correspondence and inquires about manuscripts, book reviews, letters, and other features should be directed to Dr. Giunta:

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[giunta@lemoyne.edu](mailto:giunta@lemoyne.edu)

Dr. Vera V. Mainz, HIST Secretary-Treasurer, will continue to handle HIST membership, subscription payments, and back issues.

*Paul R. Jones and Carmen J. Giunta*

## HIST and the ACS Symposium Series

The ACS Symposium Series publishes peer-reviewed books developed from the ACS technical divisions' symposia. Several recent HIST symposia are the basis of forthcoming books at various stages of preparation in this series.

"A Festival of Chemistry Entertainments" was a full-day symposium at the Spring 2008 national meeting in New Orleans. Jack Stocker organized the symposium, sponsored by HIST and cosponsored by the Bolton Society, an association of chemical bibliophiles connected to the Chemical Heritage Foundation. Dr. Stocker began work as editor of the symposium volume, and Natalie Foster picked up that task after he passed away in 2009.



The series will also bring out a book based on the Fall 2008 HIST symposium Carmen Giunta organized in honor of the 200th anniversary of Dalton's *A New System of Chemical Philosophy*. The symposium was titled "200 Years of Atoms in Chemistry: From Dalton's Atoms to Nanotechnology." The book, which is currently at the production stage, will be called *Atoms in Chemistry: From Dalton's Predecessors to Complex Atoms and Beyond*.

The Bolton Society has held a series of symposia on classic chemistry books at several recent national meetings. The first was "Landmark Chemistry Books of the 20th Century" in Fall 2005 (Washington), organized by James Bohning. That series continues at the Fall 2010 meeting with "Classic Books in Chemistry VII: Physical Chemistry Books from New England," organized by Gary Patterson and Ned Heindel. James Bohning is working with the ACS Symposium Series to develop a book from the Bolton Society symposia. This project is in the developmental stage.

Finally, the Symposium Series has accepted a proposal to publish a book based on the Spring 2010 symposium "100+ Years of Plastics. Leo Baekeland and Beyond." Tom Strom organized the symposium, held in San Francisco, sponsored by HIST and cosponsored by the Divisions of Polymer Chemistry and Polymeric Materials: Science and Engineering. He and Seth Rasmussen are editing the book, which is at the stage of manuscript submission and review.

ACS Symposium Series books are distributed by Oxford University Press. Books and chapters can be searched from the ACS Publications home page ([pubs.acs.org](http://pubs.acs.org)), just like ACS journals.

*Carmen J. Giunta*

### **Message from the HIST Program Chair**

While at a conference in Japan last month, I was introduced to a traditional Japanese saying - "*Cherishing Old Knowledge, Acquiring New*", which seemed to nicely sum up our activities in HIST. Of course, to do this we need to continue our historical activities and just as importantly, make sure to share them with the rest of the ACS community. We had very successful programming for San Francisco (thanks much to everyone involved!), however, we again have a fairly light schedule for Boston and only a single poster representing us in SciMix. Please consider submitting an abstract for one of the upcoming meetings and if you have ideas for symposia, please let me know. Even if you are not able to organize the symposia in mind, the Executive Committee and I may be able to find the appropriate person to do so. I know that the difficulties with the new PACS system may be keeping some from dealing with submitting an abstract. Know that I and ACS are doing what we can to improve the system and in the meantime, do not hesitate to contact me if you need help submitting an abstract.



We will be trying another new idea in programming with the upcoming meeting in Anaheim with our HIST Tutorial series. The idea will be to have one (possibly two) presentations each meeting that will be a review tutorial on a historical subject to bring HIST members and the general ACS community up to speed on a topic of general interest. We possible, we will also try to tie these talks into the ACS Thematic Programming. If there is a topic you would like to see added to the series, or better yet, if there is a topic you would like to talk about, please let me know.

As always, please feel free to share your thoughts and suggestions ([seth.rasmussen@ndsu.edu](mailto:seth.rasmussen@ndsu.edu)). Of course, if you have questions about potential talks or symposia, please (really, PLEASE!!) contact me.  
*Seth C. Rasmussen, HIST Program Chair*

## **HIST Symposia, 240<sup>th</sup> ACS Meeting in Boston**

**August 22-26, 2010**

Schedules and abstracts are listed at the end of this Newsletter.

### **Anna Jane Harrison: ACS President, Her Science and Her Legacy**

HIST is sponsoring the second in a series of symposia on the Science and Legacy of former ACS Presidents. The presentations will highlight her life as a research chemist, chemical educator, leader of the ACS and other scientific societies/organizations, mentor and friend. Speakers include former ACS presidents Mary Good and Helen Free; Mt. Holyoke professor emeritus Mary Campbell; Lucy Eubanks, CHED; Mary Singleton, WCC; and Jan Hayes, HIST. The symposium is co-sponsored by WCC. The program will end with a panel discussion. Please join us to learn about this remarkable chemist and share your experiences, remembrances, and/or encounters with her. The symposium will be **Monday morning**, August 23, in the Seaport Hotel – Constitution.

*Jan M. Hayes, Organizer*

### **Classic Books in Chemistry VII: Physical Chemistry Books from New England**

*Cosponsored by the Bolton Society*

An eclectic and stimulating mixture of "book reports" and whimsy will be presented. Bill Jensen will provide a solid foundation for a consideration of the physical chemistry legacy of Harvard with a discussion of the textbooks of Josiah Parsons Cooke. Roger Egolf will continue the focus on Harvard with a presentation on the work of the historian Henry Adams and his application of thermodynamic paradigms to historical analysis. Cathy Cobb will bring her *Magick, Mayhem and Mavericks* to the study of J. Willard Gibbs of Yale. Another notable from Harvard, Theodore William Richards, will be discussed by Paul Karol. One of the great contributions of MIT and Yale, "Chemical Thermodynamics" by Kirkwood and Oppenheim will be discussed by the current Boston University disciple of the masters, Tom Keyes. Finally, the legacy of the Physical Chemistry Laboratory of A.A. Noyes at MIT will be celebrated with a consideration of the *magnus opus* of Charles Kraus of Clark University and later Brown on Electrical Conductivity. This will be presented by symposium organizer, Gary Patterson. The symposium will be **Monday afternoon**, August 23, in the Seaport Hotel – Constitution.

*Ned Heindel, Gary Patterson, Organizers*

## **UPCOMING NATIONAL MEETINGS AND HIST DEADLINE**

Offerings are subject to change. Check the [HIST website](http://www.scs.uiuc.edu/~mainzv/HIST/) (<http://www.scs.uiuc.edu/~mainzv/HIST/>) for updates.

### **ANAHEIM, March 27-31, 2010**

Submit your abstract via the ACS Electronic Submission System (**PACS** - <http://abstracts.acs.org/>) by **October 29, 2010**. If you do not have access to a computer for use in the submission or are having difficulties in submitting your abstract, contact Seth Rasmussen. Check the call for papers in [Chem and Eng News](http://pubs.acs.org/cen/) (<http://pubs.acs.org/cen/>) or the [ACS website](http://portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/content) (<http://portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/content>) for changes in the abstract deadlines. Symposia ideas are still being accepted.

**General Papers.** (**Seeking contributors**) Seth C. Rasmussen, Department of Chemistry and Molecular Biology, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND 58105, Phone: (701) 231-8747, Email: [seth.rasmussen@ndsu.edu](mailto:seth.rasmussen@ndsu.edu)

**Pioneers of Quantum Chemistry (Seeking contributors)** [Cosponsorship is being sought with COMP] 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, Email: [tomstrom@juno.com](mailto:tomstrom@juno.com)

**What's in a name? Histories of units and constants (Seeking contributors)** Carmen Giunta, Le Moyne College, 1419 Salt Springs Rd., Syracuse, NY 13214-1399, Phone: (315) 445-4128, Fax: (315) 445-4540, Email: [giunta@lemoyne.edu](mailto:giunta@lemoyne.edu)

**DENVER, March 27-31, 2011**

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**IYC'11: A Philatelic Celebration.** (Invited and **seeking contributors**) Dan Rabinovich, Department of Chemistry, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, 9201 University City Boulevard, Charlotte, NC 28223, Phone: (704) 687-4442, Email: [drabinov@uncc.edu](mailto:drabinov@uncc.edu); Ron Hill, 7590 West Caley Drive, Littleton, CO 80123, Phone: (303) 241-5409, Email: [hillwright@mac.com](mailto:hillwright@mac.com)

## **News from the Chemical Heritage Foundation**

The [Chemical Heritage Foundation](http://www.chemheritage.org/) (CHF - <http://www.chemheritage.org/>) serves the community of the chemical and molecular sciences, and the wider public, by treasuring the past, educating the present, and inspiring the future. CHF maintains a world-class collection of materials that document the history and heritage of the chemical and molecular sciences, technologies, and industries; encourages research in its collections; and carries out a program of outreach and interpretation in order to advance an understanding of the role of the chemical and molecular sciences, technologies, and industries in shaping society.

### **Michal Meyer Named Editor-in-Chief**

The Chemical Heritage Foundation (CHF) has named Michal Meyer, PhD, editor in chief of Chemical Heritage magazine and executive producer of the Distillations podcast. In this role, she will be responsible for day-to-day operations and strategic planning for the magazine and the podcast as well as leading efforts to reach new audiences with stories from the history of the chemical and molecular sciences. Meyer recently earned a doctoral degree from the University of Florida at Gainesville. Her work experience includes serving as a writer and editor at The Jerusalem Post, managing editor of the History of Science Society (HSS) Newsletter and webmaster of the HSS site. She has also worked as a meteorologist both in New Zealand and Fiji.

### **2010 SCI Perkin Medal will go to Ronald Breslow**

The Society of Chemical Industry (SCI), America International Group, will award the SCI Perkin Medal to Ronald Breslow, S.L. Mitchill Professor of Chemistry and University Professor at Columbia University. He will be presented with the medal at the Perkin Medal dinner, now in its 104th year, during Innovation Day 2010 at Chemical Heritage Foundation (CHF) in Philadelphia on 23 September. Innovation Day gathers more than 200 scientific leaders from the chemical and molecular science industries to discuss cutting edge research.