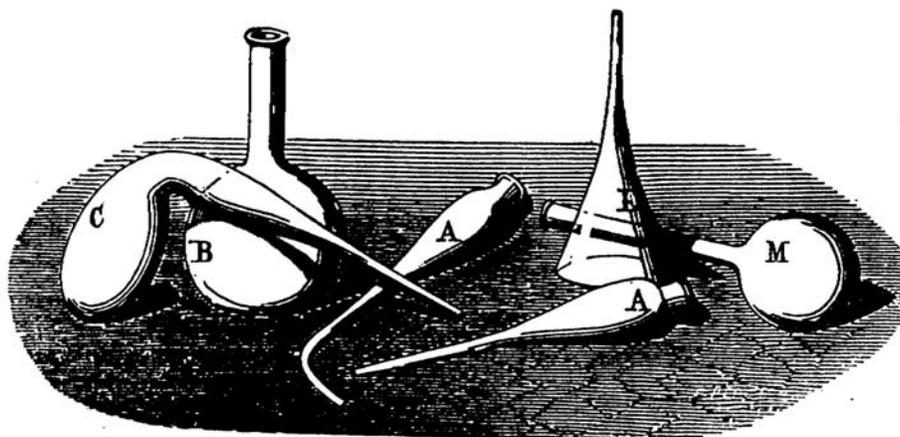




American Chemical Society  
**DIVISION OF THE HISTORY OF  
CHEMISTRY**



**NEWSLETTER**

241<sup>st</sup> ACS National Meeting  
Anaheim, CA  
March 27-31, 2011

*S. C. Rasmussen, Program Chair*

## DIVISION OF THE HISTORY OF CHEMISTRY

**Chair:** 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](mailto:tomstrom@juno.com)

**Chair-Elect:** Ned D. Heindel  
Lehigh University  
Department of Chemistry  
Seeley G. Mudd Lab  
Bethlehem, PA. 18015  
Phone: (610) 758-3464  
Fax: (610) 758-3461  
Email: [ndh0@lehigh.edu](mailto:ndh0@lehigh.edu)

**Past Chair:** Janan M. Hayes  
Merced College (retired)  
6829 Barbara Lee Circle  
Sacramento, CA 95842  
Phone: (916) 331-6886  
Email: [jmhayes@earthlink.net](mailto:jmhayes@earthlink.net)

**Secretary-Treasurer:** Vera V. Mainz  
2709 Holcomb Drive  
Urbana, IL 61802  
Phone: (217) 328-6158  
Email: [mainz@illinois.edu](mailto:mainz@illinois.edu)

**Program Chair:** Seth C. Rasmussen  
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry  
North Dakota State University  
NDSU Dept. 2735, P.O Box 6050  
Fargo, ND 58108-6050  
Phone: (701) 231-8747  
Fax: (701) 231-8831  
Email: [seth.rasmussen@ndsu.edu](mailto:seth.rasmussen@ndsu.edu)

**Bulletin Editor:** Carmen J. 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)

**Councilor:** 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](mailto:mvorna@cnr.edu)

**Councilor:** Roger A. Egolf  
Pennsylvania State University -  
Lehigh Valley Campus, 8380 Mohr Lane  
Fogelsville, PA 18051-9999  
Phone: (610) 285-5110  
Fax: (610) 285-5220  
Email: [rae4@psu.edu](mailto:rae4@psu.edu)

**Alternate Councilor:** 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](mailto:jeffers@obu.edu)

**Alternate Councilor:** Arthur Greenberg  
Department of Chemistry  
University of New Hampshire  
Parsons Hall  
Durham, New Hampshire 03824  
Phone: 603 862-1180  
Fax: 603 862-4278  
Email: [art.greenberg@unh.edu](mailto:art.greenberg@unh.edu)

**Historian:** James J. Bohning  
Department of Chemistry, Lehigh University  
6 E. Packer Ave., Bethlehem, PA 18015  
Phone: (610) 758-3582  
Fax: (610) 758-6536  
Email: [jjba@lehigh.edu](mailto:jjba@lehigh.edu)

**Archivist:** John Sharkey  
Pace University  
Department of Chemistry & Physical Sciences  
One Pace Plaza  
New York, NY 10038-1502  
Phone: (610) 758-3582  
Email: [jsharkey@pace.edu](mailto:jsharkey@pace.edu)

## Mission Statement

The Division of the History of Chemistry ([HIST](http://www.scs.uiuc.edu/~mainzv/HIST/index.php) - <http://www.scs.uiuc.edu/~mainzv/HIST/index.php>) 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 Tom Strom, HIST Division Chair

This is my first report to you as HIST Chair. It is an honor to serve you as Chair, as it has been an honor to previously serve you as Chair-Elect. I joined HIST in 1990, when I realized that HIST didn't have the boring sessions that the other divisions did. I seem to have backed into HIST governance through arranging a history-based symposium at the Southwest Regional ACS meeting held in Fort Worth in 2004. After that I served as a resource for other chemists who were interested in arranging a chemical history session at an ACS regional meeting. Next I arranged a HIST symposium on "Landmark Stable Free Radicals of the Twentieth Century" for the Chicago ACS meeting in 2007. Somehow in 2008 I got elected to the position of Chair-Elect, and now here I am. The main impression that remains with me from these past



few years is how devoted and able your HIST officers are. My thanks particularly go to Jan Hayes for her past two years as Chair, to Vera Mainz for her wise counsel, and to Paul Jones for his long, devoted service as Editor of the Bulletin. Fortunately we have an able replacement for Paul in Carmen Giunta.

Along with Paul Jones and Carmen Giunta, I served on the nominations committee. We had a fine slate of nominees, which, unsurprisingly, resulted in a fine slate of officers. The elected officers are as follows: Chair-Elect, Ned Heindel; Secretary-Treasurer, Vera Mainz; Councilor, 2011-2013, Roger Egolf; Alternate Councilor, 2011-2013, Joe Jeffers, Councilor, 2012-2014, Mary Virginia Orna; Alternate Councilor, 2012-2014, Arthur Greenberg. Other members of the Executive Committee are: Historian, James J. Bohning; Archivist, John Sharkey; Bulletin Editor, Carmen Giunta; Program Chair, Seth Rasmussen. I presume you are all aware that our elections are held every other year. There was some difficulty in getting a full slate of nominees. I hope you members will be open to possibly serving in the future. Division members should remember that there is some support available from HIST for Executive Committee travel once a year to ACS meetings.

As I stated in my message last fall, my primary goal is for us is to increase the numbers in and visibility of HIST. I hope all of you members will do your part by attending ACS meetings, giving papers in HIST sessions, and perhaps arranging or suggesting symposia. I would like to see you members promote HIST sessions or regionally-based symposia at ACS regional meetings. I was pleased to see an increase in the number of general papers for Anaheim. I hope this can be kept up for the meetings in Denver, San Diego, and New York.

Please contact me at ([tomstrom@juno.com](mailto:tomstrom@juno.com)) with your ideas, criticisms, and suggestions. I especially solicit feedback in advance of the Anaheim meeting, so that important issues can be part of the Executive Committee agenda. I look forward to meeting many of you in the future.

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

### **Message from Jan Hayes, HIST Division Past Chair**

Although Past Chairs usually do not have a message in the newsletter, I wanted to update members on the status of two projects I started while Chair. The first deals with the history of past ACS presidents. Many of us have been concerned that there is no listing of past ACS presidents on the current <http://www.acs.org/> website. As a project authorized by Immediate Past ACS President Joe Francisco, this is going to be changed. He is supporting the development of a new group of web pages called “Profiles of Past ACS Presidents”, which will be rolled out at the Denver Fall 2011 national meeting. It will start with a basic page for each president including a photograph or



portrait and biographical information. Additional information will be added as it is identified. A symposium will be held as part of the HIST program to share some of the past presidents’ stories and an overview of trends in the lives of the presidents. If you are interested in participating in this symposium, please contact me ([janan.hayes@yahoo.com](mailto:janan.hayes@yahoo.com)) as soon as possible as the abstract deadline is March 28.

The second project was the San Francisco Spring 2010 symposium honoring Jack Stocker. This was followed by a similar symposium during the December 2010 Southeast/Southwest Joint Regional meeting in New Orleans. Both were successful and brought back many fond memories of Jack. His two sons have possession of his book collection. In New Orleans, we discussed the possibility of HIST working with them to establish a place for at least part of this collection in the Library at the University of New Orleans. I will continue to work with them on the logistics. We will be asking for your individual financial support for this project to be completed by the ACS National meeting in New Orleans in 2013. I hope you will aid in this continuing effort. Thanks again for the opportunity to serve HIST the past two years as your division chair.

*Jan Hayes, HIST Past Chair*

### **Report of Councilors, Division of the History of Chemistry ACS National Meeting, Boston, MA, August 22-26, 2010**

#### **Election Results**

- The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented to the Council and the Council elected to the Committee on Committees the following: Janet L. Bryant, H. N. Cheng, Amber S. Hinkle, V. Michael Mautino, and Yorke E. Rhodes for the 2011-2013 term; elected to the Council Policy Committee beginning in 2011 were John E. Adams, Alan M. Ehrlich, Mary Virginia Orna, and Dorothy J. Phillips for the 2011-2013 term; elected to the Committee on Nominations and Elections beginning in 2011 were Jeannette E. Brown, Martha L. Casey, D. Richard Cobb, LissaDulany, and Angela K. Wilson for the 2011-2013 term.

#### **Candidates for President-Elect and Board of Directors**

The candidates for the fall 2010 ACS national election were announced as follows:

- *President-Elect 2011*  
Luis A. Echegoyen, Professor, University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, TX

Bassam Z. Shakhashiri, Professor, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI

- *Directors-at-Large - 2011-2013*  
Janan M. Hayes, (Retired) Professor Emeritus, Merced College, Sacramento, CA  
Robert L. Lichter, Principal and Co-Founder, Merrimack Consultants, LLC, Barrington, MA  
Kathleen M. Schulz, President, Business Results Inc., Albuquerque, NM  
Kent J. Voorhees, Professor, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO
- *Director, District II - 2011-2013*  
George M. Bodner, Professor, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN  
Joseph R. Peterson (Retired) Professor Emeritus, University of Tennessee, and (Retired) Oak Ridge National Lab, Knoxville, TN
- *Director, District IV - 2011-2013*  
Larry K. Krannich, Professor Emeritus, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL  
Will E. Lynch, Professor, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA

#### **Petitions (For Action)**

- The Council received one amendment to the ACS Constitution and Bylaws for action: The Petition on Recorded Votes. The Council VOTED to approve the Petition on Recorded Votes. This petition provides for additional voting methods, e.g., electronic clickers that have been recently used at Council meetings, when conducting recorded votes. The Board of Directors will vote within 90 days on whether to ratify the approved petition.

#### **Reports of the Presidential Succession**

- The President, Joseph S. Francisco, reported on actions to create an advisory group on diversity and inclusion, a presidential symposium on cooperative actions between Industry and Academia and the creation of the ACS International Center. President-Elect Nancy B. Jackson, during her address to Council, introduced Dr. Temechegn Engida from Ethiopia, President of the Federation of the African Societies of Chemistry. Dr. Engida addressed Council regarding his achievement in convincing the United Nations of the importance of chemistry to developing nations, thereby bringing to success his petition for the International Year of Chemistry 2011.

#### **Committee Review**

- As part of a regular performance review, the Council VOTED to continue the Committee on Science. Continuation of the Committee on Science also requires Board of Directors concurrence.

#### **Meeting Registration Report**

- As of August 24, 2010, the ACS fall national meeting had attracted 14,059 registrants. Totals in select categories are as follows: Regular attendees 8,211; Students 3,230; Guests 393; Exhibit Only 733; and Exhibitors 1,492.

#### **Membership Activity**

- The 2010 membership numbers are on track to meet year-end goals. The Student Member community has continued to grow since creation of this new member category in June 2009. The number of Student Members was 12,815 as of July 31, 2010.

#### **Special Discussion Item**

- A special discussion item was put on the Council agenda for this meeting. ACS President Joseph Francisco invited the Council Policy Committee Vice Chair to present a proposal to move Council

meetings from Wednesdays to Tuesdays. The proposal included survey results from Councilors and other stakeholders followed by a robust discussion on the pros and cons of a move. Councilors concluded their discussion with a straw poll that showed 128 are supportive of the proposed move of Council to Tuesdays, 225 oppose the move, and 56 are undecided. The Council Policy Committee and the Board of Directors will decide by spring 2011 whether the Council should move from Wednesday to Tuesday.

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

- The Executive Director/CEO, along with several of her direct reports, updated the Board on ACS and social media, technology trends and their impact on the Society, fundraising priorities for 2011, and the activities of Chemical Abstracts Service, the Publications Division, and the Society's General Counsel – including an update on the Leadscope litigation. .

### **Activities of HIST Councilors**

**Carmen Giunta** – participated in meetings of the Divisional Activities Committee (DAC) as a member and subcommittee chair; the National Historic Chemical Landmarks Committee and the Committee on Nomenclature, Terminology, and Symbols (NTS) as a member; and the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws as liaison from DAC. He points to the following activities as particularly relevant to members of HIST: the Landmarks celebration of diagnostic test strips (developed by Alfred and Mary Good) earlier in 2010 and that of the discovery of fullerenes scheduled for October, and the symposium he is organizing for the Anaheim meeting in 2011 on behalf of NTS and HIST on named units and constants. The Boston meeting was the last one of his term on Council.

**Mary Virginia Orna** – was elected to her second three-year term on the Council Policy Committee (CPC) (2011-2013), thus rounding out a full eighteen years of service on the elected committees of the Council. She has been serving on the Long-Range Planning and the Constitution and Bylaws Subcommittees of CPC and may continue in these roles into her new term. If so, she will work on developing a policy on alternative methods of taking recorded votes in Council, and also on overall national meeting planning and efficiency.

*Carmen J. Giunta, Mary Virginia Orna, Councilors*

### **Springer to Launch New Book Series in the History of Chemistry**

In 2010, Springer introduced a new format of publication called “SpringerBriefs”. These slim volumes are concise summaries of cutting-edge research and practical applications across a wide spectrum of fields. Individual titles are 50-125 typeset pages and are available in both softcover print and eBook formats. HIST is now happy to announce that Springer will add *Springer Briefs in Molecular Science: History of Chemistry*, with current HIST Program Chair Seth Rasmussen of North Dakota State University serving as series editor. The first volumes in this new history series should be published at the beginning of 2012.

*Springer Briefs in Molecular Science: History of Chemistry* will aim to provide volumes that would be of broad interest to the chemical community, while still retaining a high level of historical scholarship such that they would be of interest to both chemists and science historians. At the same time, this new series is not meant to compete with longstanding publications such as HIST's *Bulletin for the History of Chemistry* or the Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry's *Ambix*. Rather, this series should provide a unique publication format in the history of chemistry, as its length and format falls between that of journal articles and full monographs or books. As such, this provides a format for authors that would like to expand on topics previously presented in journal format, but with less investment than needed to prepare a full monograph. Proposals for future volumes

are currently being sought and authors interested in discussing potential topics or seeking proposal guidelines should feel free to contact Seth Rasmussen ([seth.rasmussen@ndsu.edu](mailto:seth.rasmussen@ndsu.edu)).

*Seth C. Rasmussen, Series Editor*

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

Things have been pretty busy since Boston and hopefully HIST will see benefits from all the activity. First all, I know that the new PACS system has generated headaches for more than a few HIST members. However, ACS has been working to improve the system. Along these lines, the *ACSPACS Advisory Board* was formed shortly before the Boston meeting, with myself as one of the several Program Chairs that have agreed to serve on the board. Already, I can see noticeable improvements in the system and we will continue to work on making this a more user-friendly process. Please feel free to pass along issues or suggestions that I can then bring up for discussion during the next advisory board meeting (Thanks to those that have already done so).



Next, the upcoming meeting in Anaheim will mark the beginning of a new programming format, the *HIST Tutorial series*. We will strive to have one (possibly two) presentations in this series 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. The tutorials will start our General Papers session and when possible, will also tie into the ACS thematic programming. I will present the initial talk in the series, *HIST Tutorial: Early history of metallurgy*, which fits with the Anaheim theme of *Chemistry of Natural Resources*. I am currently looking for someone interested in giving a talk on gases or oxygen for the Denver meeting (Meeting theme is *Chemistry of Air, Space, and Water*). 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.

Overall, the Anaheim programming is looking good, although we could still use more people willing to present at Sci-Mix. Remember that this is an important venue for sharing history with the rest of ACS. Likewise, programming for Denver is looking very strong and it should be one of the biggest meetings for HIST is quite a while. Next spring's meeting in San Diego, however, currently has no planned symposia, so if you have any ideas for upcoming 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. As always, please feel free to share your thoughts and suggestions with me ([seth.rasmussen@ndsu.edu](mailto:seth.rasmussen@ndsu.edu)).

*Seth C. Rasmussen, HIST Program Chair*

## **HIST SYMPOSIA, 241<sup>st</sup> ACS Meeting in Anaheim, CA March 27-31, 2011**

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

### **Pioneers of Quantum Chemistry**

*Cosponsored by COMP and PHYS*

The symposium will cover leading figures and concepts in quantum chemistry from the '30's until near the present day. The international group of twelve presenters includes active and retired quantum chemists, chemical historians, and a Nobel Laureate. The symposium will be all day **Monday**, March 28, at Disney's Paradise Pier – Redondo.

*E. Strom and A. Wilson, Organizers*

## What's In a Name? Histories of Units and Constants

*Cosponsored by CHED and NTS*

What's in a name? Units and constants named after people remind us of the fact that science is a human endeavor. The community of scientists has made the names of certain achievers part of the active vocabulary of education and research. The intent of this symposium is to showcase the lives and work of several scientists whose names live on as units and constants used by chemists. Avogadro, Faraday, Becquerel, and the Curies are among the scientists to be highlighted. The session will also include a presentation on the proposed redefinition of the mole and kilogram, which involves the constants of Avogadro and Planck. It will conclude with a presentation of scientists honored in postage stamps as well as in units and constants. The symposium will be **Tuesday morning**, March 29, at Disney's Paradise Pier – Redondo.

*Carmen Giunta, Organizer*

## UPCOMING NATIONAL MEETINGS AND HIST DEADLINES

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

### **DENVER, August 28-September 1, 2011**

Submit your abstract via the online ACS Program and Abstract Creation System (PACS) by **March 28, 2011**. 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 ([seth.rasmussen@ndsu.edu](mailto:seth.rasmussen@ndsu.edu)). Check the call for papers in *Chemical and Engineering News* or [www.acs.org](http://www.acs.org) for changes in the abstract deadlines.

**General Papers and HIST Tutorials.**(**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)

**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)

**Dr. Marie Maynard Daly, Her Life and Legacy.**(Invited and **seeking contributors**) [co-sponsors: CMA and WCC] Jeannette Brown, 122 Brookside Lane Hillsborough, NJ 08844-4816, Phone: 908-239-1515, Email: [Jebrown@infionline.net](mailto:Jebrown@infionline.net); Filomena Califano, Department of Chemistry & Physics, St. Francis College, Brooklyn Heights, New York, 11201, Email: [fcalfano@stfranciscollege.edu](mailto:fcalfano@stfranciscollege.edu); Janet Bryant, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, P.O. Box 999, Richland, WA 99352, Phone: (509) 375-3765, Email: [janetlbryant@pnl.gov](mailto:janetlbryant@pnl.gov).

**Gibbs Medal Centennial.**(Invited and **seeking contributors**) [co-sponsor: Chicago Local ACS Section] Ken Fivizzani, 4251 Colton Circle Naperville, IL 60564, Phone: (630) 904-9752, Email: [kfivizzani@wowway.com](mailto:kfivizzani@wowway.com).

**Profiles of Past ACS Presidents.**(Invited and **seeking contributors**) Joe Francisco, Department of Chemistry, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907, Phone: 765-494-7851, Email: [francisc@purdue.edu](mailto:francisc@purdue.edu); Jan Hayes, Phone: (916) 331-6886, Email: [janan.hayes@yahoo.com](mailto:janan.hayes@yahoo.com); Pat Perez

**SAN DIEGO, March 25 - 29, 2012**

**General Papers and HIST Tutorials.** (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)

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

The [Chemical Heritage Foundation](http://www.chemheritage.org/) - <http://www.chemheritage.org/> (CHF) fosters an understanding of chemistry's impact on society. An independent nonprofit organization, we strive to inspire a passion for chemistry, highlight chemistry's role in meeting current social challenges, and preserve the story of chemistry across centuries. CHF maintains major collections of instruments, fine art, photographs, papers, and books. We host conferences and lectures, support research, offer fellowships, and produce educational materials. Our museum and public programs explore subjects ranging from alchemy to nanotechnology.

### **NBC10 Visits Museum**

NBC10 (Philadelphia, PA) morning anchor Terry Ruggles visited the Museum at CHF for a *Ruggles on the Road* segment in celebration of the International Year of Chemistry (IYC 2011).

Neil Gussman introduced CHF and IYC 2011, while Gigi Naglak gave viewers a tour of *Elemental Matters: Artists Imagine Chemistry*, and Michal Meyer talked about the history of forecasting weather.

### **CHF Wins Silver W<sup>3</sup> Award**

The Winners of the 2010 W<sup>3</sup> Awards have been announced recently by the International Academy of the Visual Arts at a ceremony in Los Angeles. The Chemical Heritage Foundation (CHF) was awarded a W<sup>3</sup> Silver Award for Home Page redesign.

"Our Web design team worked hard to bring the best user experience possible to the students and historians around the world who rely on our site," said Shelley WilksGeehr, director of the Roy Eddleman Institute at CHF. "This award shows how months of hard work can lead to well-deserved recognition."

Receiving over 3,000 entries, The W<sup>3</sup> Awards honors outstanding Websites, Web Marketing, Web Video, & Mobile Apps created by some of the best interactive agencies, designers, and creators worldwide. Please visit [www.w3award.com](http://www.w3award.com) for a complete list of W<sup>3</sup> Award Winners.

"We were once again amazed by the high standard of excellence represented throughout the entries we received this year. W<sup>3</sup> winners continue to embody what the internet is all about and continue to raise the bar in Web development and design. We are honored to have reviewed such a diverse and remarkable pool of work this year" said Linda Day, the executive director of the IAVA. "On behalf of the entire Academy, congratulations to this year's W<sup>3</sup> Award entrants and winners as they continue to push the limits of Web Creativity. "

## **News from the Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry**

Founded in 1935, the Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry (SHAC) has consistently maintained the highest standards of scholarship in all aspects of the history of alchemy and chemistry from early times to the present. The Society has a wide international membership of over 200 with members from 28 countries.

### **Sites of Chemistry, 1600–2000**

SHAC is sponsoring a four-year project to investigate the sites where chemistry has been practiced since 1600. The Wellcome Trust has awarded £11,000 to fund the first two years of the project. From its immediate origins in the seventeenth century, chemistry has been practiced in a wide range of physical spaces and places, from the princely court to the apothecary's shop, from the learned society and the lecture theatre to the university research laboratory, from the craftsman's workshop to the industrial R and D laboratory. In each of these, and in many other locations and at different times, chemical practice (which includes research, teaching, studying, industrial application and routine analysis, and theoretical debate) has been set within differently structured physical and social spaces and carried out by various actors for different ends

This series of two-day annual conferences from 2011 to 2014 will bring together a number of historians in order to explore the physical spaces and places where chemistry has been practiced from the seventeenth to the twentieth century. Each year will focus on a different century (broadly defined), beginning in July 2011 with the eighteenth century, the nineteenth century in June 2012, the twentieth century in June 2013 and returning to the seventeenth century in 2014. This chronological ordering will avoid a clash with a number of international events on alchemy and chemistry in 2011, and more importantly will coincide with an exhibition project on early modern chemistry in the seventeenth century basement laboratory in the Museum of the History of Science in Oxford.

The immediate focus of each conference will be on microhistories, comparative analysis and developments over the short to medium term. Papers from each annual conference will be published as special issues of the journal *Ambix*. At the end of the project a collection of commissioned essays exploring developments over the long-term and in geographical breadth will be published as *Places and Spaces: Historical Perspectives on the Practice of Chemistry*. The papers on chemistry and medicine will be published as *Chemical Spaces and Medical Practices, 1600–2000*.

The emphasis will be mainly, but not exclusively, on chemistry in Europe. The organizers are particularly keen for graduate students and new researchers to participate in the project. For further information contact John Perkins [jperkins@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:jperkins@brookes.ac.uk), and Antonio Belmar, [belmar@ua.es](mailto:belmar@ua.es).

### **Back issues of *Ambix* available online**

The digitization of the back issues of *Ambix* from Volume 1 (1937) is now complete and they are available to members of the Society to read or download from the IngentaConnect website. Access to them is via the 'Member's Services' page on the Society's website at <http://www.ambix.org>. This page may be accessed from the home page via a username and password which have been e-mailed to members. If you have any problems or wish to enquire about membership please contact the Hon. Treasurer, John Perkins, [shacperkins@googlemail.com](mailto:shacperkins@googlemail.com).