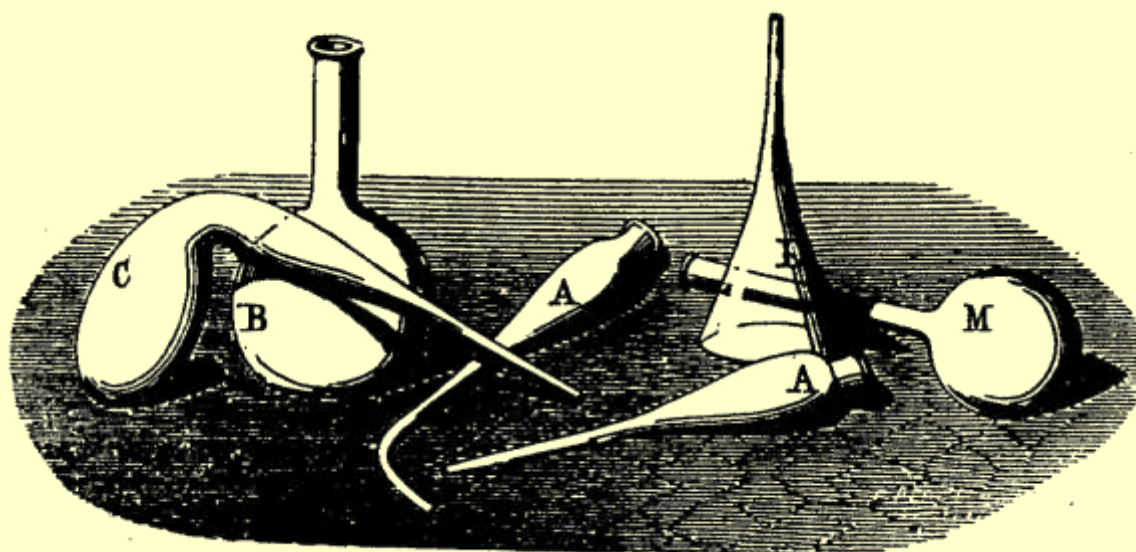




ACS
Chemistry for Life®



American Chemical Society
DIVISION OF THE
HISTORY OF CHEMISTRY



NEWSLETTER

253rd ACS National Meeting
San Francisco, CA
April 2-6, 2017

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Mission Statement

The Division of the History of Chemistry ([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.

Division Governance

Message from the HIST Division Chair

I am very excited and honored to be the Chair of HIST for the next two years. HIST has a long and distinguished history since its formation as a probationary section of ACS in 1921 (formal status as a Division was conferred in 1927). While we do serve as a forum for members to share their historical work with others, we also have the important mission of demonstrating how critical the history of chemistry is to the actual scientific enterprise by engaging with as many of the other divisions as possible at ACS and other regional meetings. I plan to encourage that activity and build on the great success we already have in that area. We have a great lineup of symposia for the upcoming ACS meetings in San Francisco and Washington, DC, the Citation for Chemical Breakthroughs program is going strong, and the HIST Award for Outstanding Achievement in the History of Chemistry was revived in 2012 and the list of deserving awardees just shows how dynamic and healthy the history of chemistry field is. Indeed, I am happy to say that the 2017 HIST Award winner is Jeffrey I. Seeman, a prolific historian and tireless advocate for HIST and the history of chemistry overall.



In addition to building up awareness and membership for HIST within the ACS, I will be an active participant and external meetings and promote the activities of HIST to others, including the History of Science Society, the Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry, and the various European history of chemistry divisions through the network being built up with the Chemical Heritage Foundation's Heritage Council-Europe. My hope is to at least increase affiliate membership of HIST by non-ACS members and to promote the *Bulletin of the History of Chemistry* far and wide. With your help, I foresee an excellent future for HIST and the history of chemistry.

Finally, my thanks to Gary Patterson for his fine leadership of HIST for the last two years and to all of the amazing officers and other volunteers who make this division great and who have made my transition as smooth as possible!

Ronald Brashear, HIST Chair

Report of Councilors, Division of the History of Chemistry 252nd ACS National Meeting – Philadelphia, PA, August 24, 2016

Election Results: Elected Council Committees

By electronic ballot, the Council elected Harmon B. Abrahamson, Lissa A. Dulany, Andrea B. Twiss-Brooks, and Sally B. Peters for a 2017-2019 term, Martin D. Rudd for a 2017-2018 term, and Karl S. Booksh and Ella L. Davis for a one-year term, 2017, on the Council Policy Committee.

By electronic ballot, the Council elected Lisa M. Balbes, Thomas H. Lane, Amber S. Hinkle, Alan M. Ehrlich, and Alan A. Hazari for a 2017-2019 term and Neil D. Jespersen for a one-year term, 2017, on the Committee on Nominations and Elections.

By electronic ballot, the Council elected Wayne E. Jones, Jr., D. Richard Cobb, Stephanie J. Watson, Dee Ann Casteel, and Emilio X. Esposito for three year terms, 2017-2019, on the Committee on Committees.

Other Council Actions

Continuation of Select Committees. On the recommendation of the Committee on Committees, the Council voted to approve the continuation of the Committee on Analytical Reagents, and the Committee on Chemical Abstracts Service, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors.

Change in Local Section Territory. On the recommendation of the Committee on Local Section Activities, the Council approved a petition from the Permian Basin Local Section to annex the Texas counties of Pecos and Brewster, and the petition from the Upper Peninsula Local Section to annex unassigned and adjacent territory, and one Michigan county (Menominee) now currently assigned to the North-west Wisconsin Local Section.

Unemployed Members' Dues Waiver. On the recommendation of the Committee on Membership Affairs, the Council approved a petition to amend the ACS Bylaws to extend the Unemployed Members' Dues Waiver, which will extend waivers for unemployed members' dues from the current two years to three years, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors.

Chemical Professional's Code of Conduct. On the recommendation of the Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs, the Council approved the

Chemical Professional's Code of Conduct, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors.

Charter Bylaws. On the recommendation of the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws, the Council approved the Bylaws for Divisions in Probationary Status and the Charter Bylaws for New Local Sections.

International Chemical Sciences Chapters. On the recommendation of the Committee on International Activities, the Council approved the establishment of ACS International Chemical Sciences Chapters in Greater Beijing, Southwestern China, and Iraq, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors.

Resolutions

The Council passed resolutions in memory of deceased Councilors; acknowledging President Donna Nelson's service as presiding officer of the Council; and in gratitude for the officers and members of the Philadelphia Local Section, the host Section for the 252nd National Meeting, the divisional program chairs and symposium organizers, and ACS staff.

Special Discussion

The Council conducted a special discussion to gather input on proposed recommendations from the ACS Presidential Task Force on the U.S. Employment of Chemists. The task force has been examining and considering all known influences that can impact employment in the chemical sciences. Councilors were invited to share their thoughts, comments, and suggestions on the proposed suggestions to date, in preparation for the report's expected release later this year.

Highlights from Committees Reports

Nominations and Elections (N&E)

The Committee on Nominations and Elections solicits Councilors' input of qualified individuals for President-Elect and/or Directors for future consideration. Suggestions may be sent to nomelect@acs.org. N&E has established the Vote 20/20 Task Force, charged with examining all aspects of nominations and elections for ACS national offices, and designing an enhanced process to be in place by the year 2020.

The committee welcomes ideas from all members as to how nominations and elections should be handled. Send comments to vote2020@acs.org.

Budget and Finance (B&F)

The Society's 2016 Probable 1 Budget calls for a Net from Operations of \$17.3 million. This is \$3.9 million higher than the Approved Budget but only \$723,000 higher than 2015. Total revenues are projected to be \$528.8 million, essentially on budget, and 3.3% higher than the prior year. Total expenses are projected at \$511.5 million, which is 0.6% favorable to budget, and 3.3% higher than 2015.

The Committee considered several program funding requests for 2017, and on its recommendations, the Board subsequently approved funding for the Atlantic Basin Conference on Chemistry, the ChemIDP Program; and the International Student Chapter Program.

Activities of HIST Councilors

Mary Virginia Orna – is completing her term on the Local Sections Activities Committee (LSAC). She awaits appointment to another committee for 2017.

Roger Egolf – is also completing his term on his committee, the Divisional Activities Committee (DAC) and awaiting his next appointment. This year, he chaired the DAC subcommittee on Governance and Annual Reports and participated in the DAC Strategic Planning meeting in Washington D.C in June.

Mary Virginia Orna, Roger A. Egolf, Councilors

Additional information can be found at www.acs.org, at the bottom of the page, click 'About ACS', then 'Financial'. There you will find several years of the Society's audited financial statements and IRS 990 filings.

Philadelphia Meeting Attendance

As of Tuesday evening, August 23 the total number of attendees, including students, exhibitors, and guests came to a grand total of 12,800.

Petitions to Amend Constitution and Bylaws

New petitions to amend the Constitution or Bylaws must be received by the Executive Director no later than December 14 to be included in the Council agenda for consideration at the spring 2017 meeting in San Francisco. Contact the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws with any questions or requests for information at bylaws@acs.org.

News

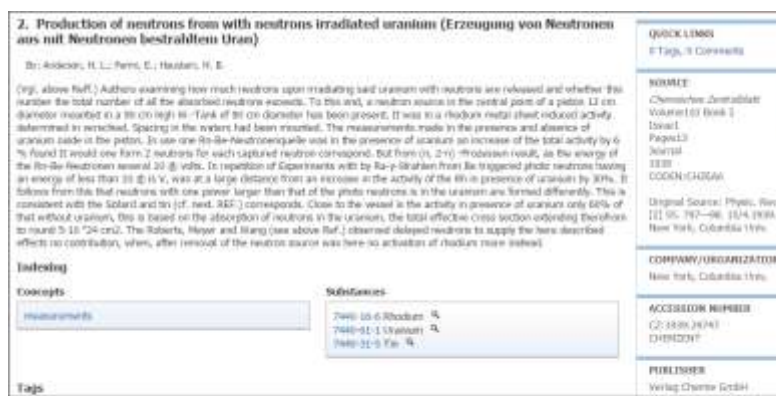
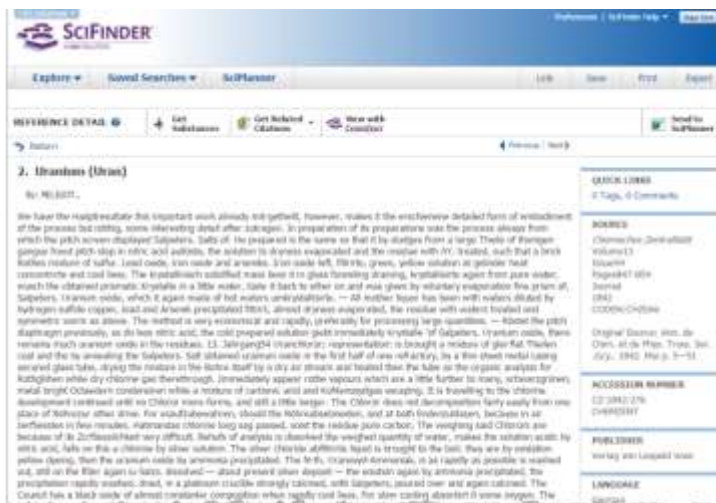
HIST Included in C&EN's 10 most popular articles from 2016

The April 11, 2016 article "Notable chemists who should have won the Nobel" was selected as one of the 10 most read articles of 2016. This article by Stu Borman was a detailed write up of the HIST symposium "*The Posthumous Nobel Prize in Chemistry. Correcting the Errors and Oversights of the Nobel Prize Committee*," organized by Tom Strom, and highlighted several of the presentations given as part of the symposium. Highlighted talks included Carmen Giunta's talk on Dmitri Mendeleev, Tom Strom's talk on Wallace Carothers, Eamonn Healy's talk on Michael Dewar, Charles Perrin's talk on Louis Hammett, and Pierre Laszlo's talk on Howard Simmons. Brief mention was also given to Burtron Davis' talk on BET theory and Gary Patterson's talk on Herman Mark. The article

generated a significant number of comments by readers of the online version of the article and both the online comments and the total number of readers illustrates the continued interest ACS members have in the history of our discipline, particularly when it comes to the lives and work of notable figures of chemistry. The original article can be found online at <http://cen.acs.org/articles/94/i15/Five-chemists-should-won-Nobel.html>.

CAS expands its coverage back to 1830 with ChemZent™

Since 1907, CAS (Chemical Abstracts Service) has been dedicated to finding, collecting, and organizing all publicly disclosed chemical information. In keeping with its role as the Keepers of Chemistry, CAS recently expanded its coverage back to 1830 with the historical content of the oldest collection of



Note the blue marker that identifies the record of interest within the PDF.

chemical information: *Chemisches Zentralblatt*. The following presents how CAS made this content accessible in ChemZent™ and the wealth of data that scientists can find in these records.

Chemisches Zentralblatt is the first journal of chemistry abstracts. Published in German, it covers the literature from 1830 to 1969. CAS obtained the rights to the Chemisches Zentralblatt archive and built a customer-ready solution that provides access to the more than three million patents and journal abstracts. After machine-translation into English, scientists at CAS added standardized terminology (CAS Index Terms) and CAS Registry Numbers® to each record to make it easy for researchers to find information of interest. Customers can search ChemZent using the power of SciFinder®. When they find a record of interest, a pointer identifies the location of the abstract within the PDF.

ChemZent chronicles some of the most important events in the history of chemistry and the contributions of scientists who formulated the theories

and hypotheses that shaped the foundation of today's chemistry.

ChemZent has proven popular with libraries and intellectual property professionals. Other groups who find it valuable include researchers interested in the history of chemistry and professors who are expanding their curriculum. In addition, process scientists who are exploring simpler chemistry methodologies often find these abstracts useful, since so many of these articles were written before the advent of high tech labs and digital equipment.

Once purchased, an organization will be able to enjoy access to ChemZent in perpetuity. CAS has arranged for Portico to provide archival access, ensuring that the information in these irreplaceable records is preserved for use by future generations. To learn more about ChemZent and other CAS solutions, please visit the CAS website at <http://www.cas.org/index>.

Sabine Kuhn, CAS

Ladies in Waiting for Nobel Prizes: Overlooked Accomplishments of Women Chemists

The HIST symposium on “The Posthumous Nobel Prize in Chemistry” last March at the San Diego ACS meeting received a surprising amount of coverage. Stu Borman wrote a two and half page piece for an April issue in *C&EN*, and readers of the magazine rated that article as the 10th most popular article in 2016 in *C&EN*. However, that symposium lacked any coverage of women chemists also deserving of Nobel Prizes. Our HIST symposium for Tuesday, Aug. 22, at the ACS National Meeting in Washington, D.C. will attempt to restore balance. The symposium, titled above, is being co-sponsored by the ACS Women Chemists Committee (WCC). Furthermore, Vera Mainz applied successfully for a DAC grant to sponsor a performance of the theatre piece “No Belles” following the symposium. This play, presented by the Portal Theatre Group from the Pacific Northwest, tells the tale of eight female scientists: six are Nobel Prize winners; two (Rosalind Franklin and Lise Meitner) are not. The keynote speaker for the symposium is Magdolna Hargittai, who is author of THE book on women scientists, *Women Scientists: Reflections, Challenges, and Breaking Boundaries* (Oxford University Press, 2015).

We hope that WCC will provide several speakers for the symposium, but we also welcome contributions from our faithful HIST members. There are some obvious individuals who should be featured, for example, Rosalind Franklin, Lise Meitner, and Ida Noddack, but we also hope to hear presentations about women chemists who are unknown to most of us, but who shouldn't be. To avoid too many people speaking about the same person, we ask that you submit the topic of your proposed talk to either Vera Mainz (mainz@illinois.edu) or E. Thomas Strom (tomstrom@juno.com; or estrom@uta.edu). Abstracts are due by April 10. **If you are interested in presenting but need a woman chemist to highlight, please let us know. We have compiled a list of women nominated for Nobel Prizes who did not make the final cut.**

The symposium “The Posthumous Nobel Prize in Chemistry. Correcting the Errors and Oversights of the Nobel Prize Committee” is currently being

turned into an ACS Symposium Book edited by Tom Strom and Vera Mainz. This August symposium would make a fitting sequel, provided the numbers of significant but overlooked women chemists are sufficient. We think they are, and we look forward to all of you demonstrating that fact.

Vera Mainz, E. Thomas (Tom) Strom

HIST Facebook Page Still Growing

The international community following the HIST Facebook page has continued to expand; now exceeding **1900 likes!** As can be seen in the table below, HIST now has a Facebook following that is comparable to most of the 'big' divisions of the ACS, which speaks to the strong interest in the history of chemistry throughout the scientific community.



Division	Followers	Division	Followers
PHYS	2666	ORGN	2070
ANYL	2570	HIST	1923
INOR	2393	CHED	1489
POLY	2124	PMSE	778

The majority of those reached via Facebook are still younger people (72% are aged 18-34, with 36% aged 18-24) and the majority of our followers (~61%) reside in India, Egypt, and the US (although the number of followers in Mexico is also growing). All in all, 87% of our followers are from various international communities (44 different countries!), without traditional access to HIST.

The University of Florence launches a New History of Chemistry Journal

A new international journal in the history of chemistry, *Substantia*, has been launched by the University of Florence. This peer-reviewed, English-language journal will be published in electronic format twice a year and will be fully open-access. The scope of the journal intends to include connections between chemistry and other horizons of human activities, and the historical aspects of chemistry. Pierandrea Lo Nostro, of the "Ugo Schiff" Chemistry Department, will serve as the journal's Editor-in-Chief and several HIST members are serving on the journal's advisory board. Starting

March 15th, *Substantia* can be found on the web at www.fupress.net/sbustanita and the first issue will be published later this spring.

Archaeological Chemistry Symposium Planned for 2019

HIST is planning a symposium on archaeological chemistry to be held at the spring meeting of the American Chemical Society in Orlando, FL, March 31-April 4, 2019. The tentative title of the symposium is “Archaeological Chemistry: Art and Archaeology in the Ancient and Medieval World.”

Papers on any subject that address this general topic, especially those that integrate chemistry with archaeology, those directed at answering social, political, and economic questions about ancient cultures, and those that incorporate the use of new technologies, are welcome. Please communicate your interest in participating in the symposium along with a tentative paper title and possible co-authors to either of the co-organizers: Seth Rasmussen (seth.rasmussen@ndsu.edu) or Mary Virginia Orna (maryvirginiaorna@gmail.com).

Seth Rasmussen, Mary Virginia Orna

News from the Chemical Heritage Foundation

The [Chemical Heritage Foundation](http://www.chemicalheritage.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.

Robert G. W. Anderson Named President of Chemical Heritage Foundation

Robert Anderson, former Director of the British Museum has been selected as the President and CEO of the Chemical Heritage Foundation. He has been interim President since July 28, 2016, stepping into the role from his position as Vice Chair of CHF’s Board of Directors. “The process of searching for a new president and CEO took us far afield but in the end we found the perfect person close to home: Robert Anderson, former Director of the British Museum, longtime CHF board member, and internationally recognized historian of science, has agreed to share his knowledge and expertise to lead CHF into the future. We are so fortunate to have Robert step into this role,” said Laurie Landeau, Chair of CHF’s Board of Directors. Anderson assumes his new role effective immediately.

Anderson has wide-ranging interests in the history of chemistry, including the history of scientific instrumentation, the work of Joseph Black and Joseph Priestley, the history of museums, and the involvement of the working class in material culture. He has been Director of the British Museum, London, where he presided over the creation of the £110 million Great Court; Keeper of Chemistry at the

Science Museum, London; and Director of the National Museums of Scotland in Edinburgh. Anderson is a recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the Dexter Award of the ACS and the Paul Bunge Prize which he was awarded in 2016 for a lifetime of “outstanding achievement in writing about and promoting the understanding of historic scientific instruments.”

Robert G. W. Anderson graduated from St John’s College, University of Oxford, and has held posts at the Royal Scottish Museum, the Science Museum, London, and the National Museums of Scotland, Edinburgh. He later became director of the British Museum, London. He has held visiting academic posts at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton University, and at the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities at the University of Cambridge (2002–2003). He is an emeritus fellow of Clare Hall, Cambridge, and has served as vice chair of the Chemical Heritage Foundation’s Board of Directors since 2012.

Chemical Heritage Foundation Receives Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries Award

The Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has selected CHF to receive a Sparks!

Ignition Grants for Libraries award for a cutting-edge project on linked data. The grant supports CHF's work to add linked-data functionality into Hydra, an open-source digital collection platform used by institutions worldwide to provide access to their digital content, by enabling CHF staff to link to authoritative external sources. The IMLS grant also allows CHF to work with consultants to select and integrate a new database for caching externally held data, giving staff local control.

Michelle DiMeo, CHF's director of digital library initiatives, who will be coordinating the project, says of the award, "We are very excited to receive this support. This linked-data project will improve cataloging workflow for librarians and curators while

reducing the possibility of human error. What's more, it will give us a chance to work with Hydra users and software developers across the country and set a best-practice model for other libraries and museums experimenting with this new technology." The yearlong grant began on October 1, 2016.

Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries are a special funding opportunity within the IMLS National Leadership Grants for Libraries program. These small grants encourage libraries and archives to test and evaluate specific innovations in the ways they operate and the services they provide. Sparks Grants support the deployment, testing, and evaluation of promising and groundbreaking new tools, products, services, or organizational practices.

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.

Franklin-Lavoisier Prize awarded to Professor Lawrence Principe

Professor Lawrence Principe, a Member of the SHAC Council, has been awarded the 2016 Prix Franklin-Lavoisier by the CHF and the Fondation de la Maison de la Chimie in recognition of 'his remarkable contributions to the understanding of the history of the chemical sciences. The prize, consisting of a silver medal and a monetary award, was conferred during a formal ceremony in Paris on 9 November 2016. The Franklin-Lavoisier Prize acknowledges commendable work in the preservation and highlighting of any aspect of our common scientific or industrial heritage in the fields of chemistry and its related applications, the promotion of the history of the chemical and molecular sciences and industries, or the fostering of closer Franco-American ties and the promotion of significant activities in the chemical sciences or industries.

Lawrence M. Principe is the Drew Professor of Humanities at Johns Hopkins University in the Department of History of Science and Technology and the Department of Chemistry. He earned undergraduate degrees in chemistry and in liberal studies at the University of Delaware (1983), a PhD in organic chemistry at Indiana University (1988), and a PhD in history of science at Johns Hopkins

University (1996). He currently teaches both history of science and organic chemistry.

Principe's research focuses on the late medieval and early modern periods (1400-1750), with particular emphasis on the history of alchemy/chemistry and the interactions of religion/theology and science. His books include *The Aspiring Adept: Robert Boyle and His Alchemical Quest* (1998) and *Alchemy Tried in the Fire: Starkey, Boyle, and the Fate of Helmontian Chymistry* (coauthored with William R. Newman; Chicago, 2004), winner of the 2005 Pfizer Prize. He has also authored two books for general readership: *The Scientific Revolution: A Very Short Introduction* (2011) and *The Secrets of Alchemy* (2013), and produced the DVD courses 'Science and Religion' and 'History of Science to 1700' for the Teaching Company.

Over the past few years Principe's research has dealt predominantly with chymistry in France during the 17th and 18th centuries. He is now completing a book about the intellectual, theoretical, social, and institutional changes within chymistry at the Parisian Royal Academy of Sciences from 1666 to the 1720s. The book is provisionally entitled *Wilhelm Homberg and the Transmutations of Chymistry at the Académie Royale des Sciences*. SHAC extends its congratulations to Professor Principe on what is a notable achievement.

News from the History of Science Society

The History of Science Society is the world's largest society dedicated to understanding science, technology, medicine, and their interactions with society in historical context. It was founded in 1924 to foster interest in the history of science and its social and cultural relations.

New Reference Resource: IsisCB Cumulative

A new open access resource was released this month: IsisCB Cumulative, a digitized version of the Isis Cumulative Bibliography of the History of Science, spanning sixty years from 1913 to 1975. The full text is available as seven large HTML files corresponding to the seven volumes of the Isis Cumulative Bibliography covering that period.

IsisCB Cumulative is a companion to IsisCB Explore, a research tool launched last year that includes data from the Isis Bibliographies from 1974 to the present, and is the result of two years of effort that included scanning, transcribing, and encoding 5000 pages of text. The files contain nearly 154,000 citation records to works in the history of science, all of which are classified by historians of science and subject bibliographers.

The current release of these volumes as individual HTML files is meant to provide temporary access to the digitized data, which will eventually be added to

the IsisCB Explore. IsisCB Cumulative and IsisCB Explore contain data accumulated and published annually and semi-annually in the journal Isis since its founding. Established by George Sarton, this bibliography has been continued by various scholars and librarians, including John Neu, Magda Whitrow, Joy Harvey, and, currently, Stephen Weldon.

The online publication of IsisCB Cumulative was made possible by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the History of Science Society, the University of Oklahoma Libraries, and the University of Oklahoma History of Science Department. The digitization efforts were overseen by Stephen Weldon, Sylwester Ratowt, and Conal Tuohy. Tuohy (see his website) parsed the transcribed text and created the HTML file (gitHub for the project). For more information about the Isis bibliographies see the project's website: <http://isiscb.org> or contact Stephen Weldon, editor of IsisCB, directly at spweldon@ou.edu.

BULLETIN FOR THE HISTORY OF CHEMISTRY

A publication of the Division of the History of Chemistry of the American Chemical Society

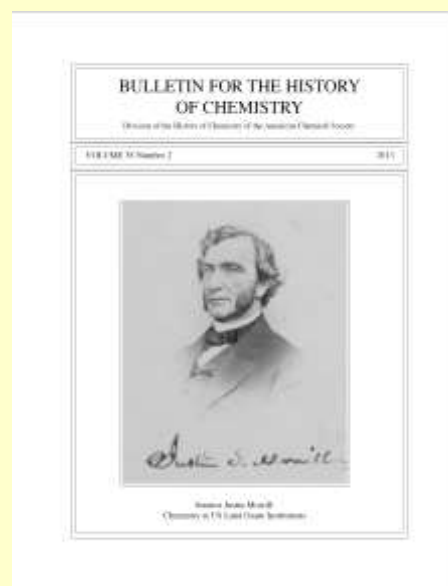
Available online: <http://www.scs.illinois.edu/~mainzv/HIST/bulletin/index.php>

PAPER SUBMISSIONS: Articles of 4-20 pages, double-spaced (excluding references) should be submitted electronically by email attachment to the Editor, Carmen Giunta, at giunta@lemoyne.edu. The title of the article should be of reasonable length (up to 15 words); a subtitle may be included if appropriate. Authors should strive to make the title descriptive of the specific scope and content of the paper. Preferred file formats for submissions are .doc, .docx, and .rtf.

Full instructions for authors can be found at <http://www.scs.illinois.edu/~mainzv/HIST/info/bull-info.php> or in the back cover of all issues of the *Bulletin*.

All matters relating to manuscripts, etc. should be sent to:

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HIST Programming

Message from the HIST Program Chair

Yes, it is time once again for the pre-meeting update on HIST programming. Our upcoming spring national meeting brings us back to San Francisco and we have a pretty full program. Our spring programming will consist of three focused symposia, including the day and a half symposium on the public perception of chemistry organized by Dan Rabinovich and Nick Tsarevsky. In addition, we have two half-day symposia; one on the golden age of industrial chemistry (cosponsored by YCC and SCC) and a second on the chemistry and history of physical design. We also have two full general papers sessions; one Sunday morning and the second Wednesday morning. I hope to see everyone at one of more of the HIST sessions!

In signing off, I need to share a bit of recent news. I have been informed that I have been selected as a 2017-2018 Fulbright Scholar, which will take me out of the country and keep me from continuing in my ongoing duties as the HIST Program Chair. As such, 2017 will be my final year in the office. I will share more details about the future of the office and HIST programming in the next newsletter, but in the meantime please continue to share any programming ideas, suggestions, or feedback with me as usual (either in person or at seth.rasmussen@ndsu.edu).

Seth C. Rasmussen, HIST Program Chair



HIST SYMPOSIA, 253rd ACS Meeting in San Francisco, CA, April 2-6, 2017

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

Golden Age of Industrial Chemistry

The Division of the History of Chemistry will be co-sponsoring this symposium with the Younger Chemists Committee and the Senior Chemists Committee. The half-day session will feature several speakers that will help tell the story of influential chemists, research organizations, and businesses that have helped shape the chemical industry into what we know today and will provide an excellent opportunity to network across organizations within the Society. We hope to see you there! The symposium will be held **Sunday Afternoon**, April 2, at the Grand Hyatt San Francisco - Redwood B.

J. E. Simpson, M. Grandbois, Organizers

Chemistry Through the Eyes of Non-chemists: Evolution of the Public Perception of Chemistry

Chemistry has often been misunderstood due to its complexity, the perception that it is only available to a small and exclusive circle of practitioners, and the general lack of awareness of how it can be rationally used and sometimes misused to attain specific goals. Over the past several centuries, chemistry has been seen by and presented to the public as both all-powerful and evil. The perception of chemistry over time has been affected by numerous factors, ranging from its ability to solve daunting technological problems and improve the quality of life to its capacity to cause, just as efficiently, harm and suffering. This symposium will trace the capricious evolution of the public image of chemistry and related scientific disciplines, as depicted by the arts and the popular media. It will attempt to explain how the changes in perception have been affected by various socio-economic factors and the potential of chemistry to enable either good or bad. The symposium will be held **Monday Morning, Monday Afternoon, and Tuesday Morning**, April 3-4, at the Grand Hyatt San Francisco - Redwood B.

D. Rabinovich, N. V. Tsarevsky, Organizers

Chemistry & the Design of Physical Objects: Innovation from 1950 to the Present

In this upcoming symposium, presenters will explore different dimensions of the myriad intersections between chemical innovations and innovations in the design of physical objects. Presenters come from a variety of fields and positions, including architecture and museum exhibition management. This symposium will also feature a roundtable discussion between participants and the audience, seeded with questions on interdisciplinarity, funding for interdisciplinary work, and publication opportunities. Dr. Stephanie E. Vasko, symposium chair (Research Associate & Program Manager for the Toolbox Dialogue Initiative at Michigan State University, 2017 AAAS Community Engagement Fellow), was inspired to call together scholars on this topic by the connections she saw between her formal training as a chemist and her experience participating in the 2015 National Endowment for the Humanities “Teaching The History Of Modern Design: The Canon And Beyond” Summer Institute.

Vasko states “It’s my hope that by having this experimental symposium at the national meeting that we can bring together chemists, materials scientists with those from the humanities not only to explore past interactions between these fields, but to work together moving forward and form fruitful interdisciplinary partnerships.” The symposium will be held **Tuesday Afternoon**, April 4, at the Grand Hyatt San Francisco - Redwood B.

S. Vasko, Organizer

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND HIST DEADLINES

Subject to change. Check the HIST website (<http://www.scs.illinois.edu/~mainzv/HIST/>) for updates.

254th ACS Meeting, Washington, DC, August 20-24, 2017

Submit your abstract via the new online Meeting Abstracts Programming System (MAPS) by **April 10th, 2017**. 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). Check the call for papers in *Chemical and Engineering News* or www.acs.org for changes in the abstract deadlines.

HIST Tutorial and General Papers. (**Seeking contributors**) 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, email: seth.rasmussen@ndsu.edu

Ladies in Waiting for Nobel Prizes. Overlooked Accomplishments of Women Chemists. (Invited and **Seeking contributors**) Vera Mainz, 2709 Holcomb Drive, Urbana, IL 61802, Phone: (217) 328-6158, email: mainz@illinois.edu; 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

Past Presidents: Daryl Busch. (Invited and **Seeking contributors**) Jan Hayes, 6829 Barbara Lee Circle, Sacramento, CA 95842, email: jmhayesacs@gmail.com

History as Outreach: Celebrating the ACS Landmarks Program's 25th Anniversary. (Invited) Keith Lindblom, Phone: (202) 872-6214, email: k_lindblom@acs.org

256th ACS Meeting, New Orleans, March 18-22, 2018

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