

Chesapeake Chemist

Maryland Section
American Chemical
Society



Avian Flu

Robert L. von Tersch, Ph.D.

Wednesday, February 22, 2006, Goucher College

Chemistry at Chocolate Town

The 38th ACS Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting, MARM 06, will be held at the Hershey Lodge, Hershey, PA, June 4-7, 2006, and is co-hosted by SE Pennsylvania and Susquehanna Valley Sections. Registration and abstract submission opened November 21, 2005 at: <http://www.marm2006.org>.

Major Symposia Planned:

Analytical Chemistry
Organic Chemistry
Food Chemistry (especially chocolate)
Medical/Pharmacological Chemistry
Burger and Copes Scholars

Awards for best undergraduate/
graduate research

Nearby Entertainment:

Hershey Amusement Park, Chocolate World, nearby Lancaster County Amish Countryside, Harrisburg's many attractions, such as the Capitol, City Island, museums, and Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts.

Preliminary List of Program Areas:

Exemplary Plenary sessions
100 years of FDA regulation
Mass spectrometry,
Forensics
Education
Law
Computers
History (especially Joseph Priestly)
Inorganic
Polymers
Bench to pilot plant
Physical

Visit our website at <http://www.marm2006.org> for regular updates.

News from National:

Revision of Guidelines for ACS Approval of Chemistry Programs

Looking for an opportunity to participate in discussions on the ACS Guidelines revision? You may do so during the extended Committee on Professional Training (CPT) open meeting at the upcoming ACS National Meeting in Atlanta.

The CPT has begun a major effort to revise the ACS guidelines for approval of undergraduate chemistry programs. The Committee is seeking broad community input during the revision process. At the upcoming ACS National Meeting in Atlanta, the Committee will hold an extended open meeting for discussion related to the guidelines revision and encourages all concerned about the chemistry undergraduate education to attend. This meeting will take place on Sunday, March 26, Noon – 2 pm in the Westin Peachtree Hotel, International F/G. Light lunch will be served.

Call for WCC Overcoming Challenges Award Nominations

The Overcoming Challenges Award (OCA) acknowledges the efforts of women and undergraduates who have overcome economic, personal, and/or academic hardships in pursuit of an education in the chemical sciences. The award consists of a plaque, a \$250 honorarium, and \$1,000 for travel expenses to the fall ACS National Meeting where the award is presented. Award candidates must be women matriculating as an undergraduate chemical science major/minor in a two-year program or at a four-year school not granting a doctoral degree in chemical-related disciplines. Nominations are due May 1, 2006, and

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ACS Maryland Section - Officers and Committee Chairs

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Committee Chairs

Student Awards (March):
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Remsen Award (May/June): Lev Ryzhkov

Braude Award (October): Charles Rowell

Maryland Chemist Award (December):
Shekhar Munavalli, 410-436-2819
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Shree Iyengar, 410-541-2266

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February Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, February 22, 2006

Goucher College, Towson, Maryland

6:00 - 6:45 pm	Registration and Social
6:45 - 7:45 pm	Dinner
8:00 - 9:00 pm	Speaker: Dr. Robert L. von Tersch Topic: Avian Flu

Cost for the dinner is \$20.00 for members; \$15.00 for spouses, retired chemists and guests, and \$10.00 for students. For reservations please contact Shirish Shah at 410-323-0803(H) or by email at dr.shah@juno.com.

Directions: From the Baltimore Beltway (I-695), take exit 27A-Towson (Dulaney Valley Road south). The college entrance is on the left, one-half block from exit 27A.

Biographical note. Dr. Robert L. von Tersch received his B.S. in chemistry from Fordham University under an ROTC scholarship and his Ph.D. in bioorganic chemistry from the University of Georgia. His graduate work involved the enzymatic synthesis of tyrosine derivatives. His other research interests are fluorinated amino acids and nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy. Dr. von Tersch reported for active duty in 1992 and served as a research biochemist at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, Aberdeen Proving Ground, where he did research to develop medical countermeasures to chemical warfare agents. A tour as assistant professor, teaching chemistry, biochemistry, and biology, at the U.S. Naval Academy followed. From 1999 to 2003 he served at the U.S. Department of State. At the State Department, he provided technical evaluations on items being proposed for export or control that may be of concern because of their potential in the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; he also served as a member of the U.S. delegation to the Biological Weapons Convention discussions in Geneva, Switzerland. In 2003, he was assigned to the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, as deputy director for Research Plans and Programs. During part of his assignment to MRMC, Dr. von Tersch was deployed to Iraq and was detailed to the office of Medical Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defense Health Policy, working for the assistant secretary of defense for health affairs. He is currently assigned to the Pentagon.



Nominations for the 2006 Maryland Chemist Award

The Maryland Chemist Award Committee is accepting nominations and recommendations for the 2006 Maryland Chemist Award. Supportive documentation should include copies of the resume of the nominee and his/her list of publications. A short statement describing the outstanding contributions of the nominee to scientific research, education, industry, technology, etc., will be helpful and appreciated. Please send nominations to S. Munavalli, 700 Paige Circle, Bel Air, MD 21014. The deadline for submission of nominations is **April 15, 2006**.

Women Chemists Committee to hold luncheon

The Maryland ACS Women Chemists Committee Luncheon will be held Friday, March 3, 2006, from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm, at Sabatino's Italian Restaurant, 901 Fawn Street, Baltimore, Md.

Dr. Sandra Greer, professor in the Department of Engineering, University of Maryland - College Park, will give a presentation on "Advancement of Women in Science."

For more information, or if you are interested in attending, contact Sara Narayan (Villa Julie College) at f-narayan@mail.vjc.edu.

News from National

should be sent to: Women Chemists Committee, American Chemical Society, 1155 16th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036. For additional information, contact the WCC at wcc@acs.org or visit <http://membership.acs.org/W/WCC>.

Celebrating the 2006 ACS National Award Recipients

On Tuesday, March 28th, fifty-six scientists will be honored with ACS Awards at the 231st National Meeting in Atlanta, Ga. It is part of the Society's mission to recognize the achievements of chemical scientists for their contributions to the varied fields of the chemical sciences and for representing the best in our field.

One of the highlights of the evening will be the presentation of the Priestley Medal – the Society's most prestigious award given to recognize distinguished services to chemistry – to Dr. Paul S. Anderson. Dr. Anderson is being recognized for his outstanding contributions to chemistry in service to society, his achievements in drug discovery, including anti-AIDS therapy as well as Zocor, Trusopt, and Aggrestat.

The fifty-six scientists who will be honored during the 2006 ceremony each serve as a reminder of the positive impact a single individual can make and of the great influence chemistry has on the world around us.

Tickets to the Awards Ceremony can be purchased when you register for the 231st National Meeting. For more information about the ACS awards, please visit <http://chemistry.org/awards>.

Chemists Celebrate Earth Day ("Dig it!" - April 22, 2006)

Chemists Celebrate Earth Day is an environmental awareness campaign. The event provides activities that are designed to enhance public awareness of important contributions made through chemistry in preserving our planet and improving our environment. The event is held annually on April 22. For more information visit chemistry.org/earthday.

National Chemistry Week - October 22-28, 2006 "Your Home - It's All Built on Chemistry"

National Chemistry Week (NCW), a community-based outreach program, is designed to reach the public with positive messages about chemistry and to make a positive change in the public's impression of chemistry. Activities include chemical demonstrations, hands-on activities, lectures, open houses, displays, contests and games. NCW is celebrated annually from Sunday through Saturday during the fourth week of October. For more information visit chemistry.org/ncw

Johns Hopkins University Chemistry Department

The Ephraim and Wilma Shaw Roseman Colloquium Series

Lectures are in Remsen Hall 233, Tuesdays, at 4:15 pm unless otherwise noted. For more information contact Rosalie Elder, 410-516-7432. The schedule is also available at <http://chemistry.jhu.edu/colloquia.html>

- February 21 Professor Vern Schramm, Albert Einstein College of Medicine
“Enzymatic Transition States, Transition State Analogues Cancer and Malaria”
- February 28 Professor Franz Geiger, Northwestern University
“Environmental Interfaces Studied by Nonlinear Optics: From Geochemistry to Atmospheric Chemistry”
- March 7 Professor Carmelo Rizzo, Vanderbilt University
“Synthesis, Structure and Bypass of Carcinogen-modified Oligonucleotides”
- March 14 Professor Dong-Sheng Yang, University of Kentucky
“Probing Molecular Structures with Zero Kinetic Energy Electrons”
- March 21 Dr. Diane Cabelli Brookhaven, National Laboratory
“Manganese Superoxide Dismutase; Proton Transfer and Function”
- March 28 Professor Rohit V. Pappu, Washington University in St Louis
“The Physics of Polyglutamine Aggregation”
- April 4 Professor John A. Porco, Jr., Boston University
“Biomimetic Synthesis of Complex Molecules”
- April 11 Professor James Morken, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill
“Catalytic Asymmetric Synthesis with Chiral Organometallics”
- April 18 Professor Alec Greer, Brooklyn College
“Polysulfane Natural Products as Evolved Chemical Defense Molecules for Marine Tunicates (*Lissoclinum* sp.)”
- April 25 Professor Jon Fukto, UCLA School of Medicine
“The Biological Chemistry of Nitric Oxide, Nitroxyl, and Related Nitrogen Oxides”

Section to participate in Earth Day cleanup

The MD ACS is participating in the annual Project Clean Stream pre-Earth Day event on Saturday, April 1, 2006, from 9a m to 12 pm at Herring Run Park in Baltimore City. This is the 3rd annual event where the MD ACS has teamed up with the Herring Run Watershed Association and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay to make a difference with our environment. Please join us for the clean up event; a map is available on the MD ACS website (<http://mdchem.org>). Earth Day t-shirts will be given out and beverages and snacks will be available. Questions can be referred to either of the event coordinators: Paul Smith (pjsmith@umbc.edu) or Sandy Young (skyoung@arl.army.mil).

February Historical Events in Chemistry

by Leopold May, The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

- February 5, 1840 Birthdate of John Boyd Dunlop, who developed pneumatic rubber tires.
- February 7, 1834 Birthdate of Dimitri I. Mendeleev, who discovered the Periodic Law (Table) at the same time as Lothar Meyer, who published later.
- February 11, 1894 Izaak M. Kolthoff was born on this day. He performed important research in analytical chemistry. His book written with E. B. Sandell is a standard reference in this field.
- February 11, 1914 Alwin Mittasch and Christian Schneider filed a patent application resulting in US patent 1,201,850, describing catalytic production of methanol from carbon monoxide and hydrogen.
- February 14, 1889 Birthdate of Evan J. Crane, who was editor of *Chemical Abstracts*, during the period of 1915-1958.
- February 19, 1859 Svante A. Arrhenius, who was born on this date, devised a theory of electrolytic dissociation and did research in viscosity and reaction rates. He received the Nobel Prize in 1903 in recognition of the extraordinary services he has rendered to the advancement of chemistry by his electrolytic theory of dissociation.
- February 20, 1937 This is the birthdate of Robert Huber, who did research on the three-dimensional structure of proteins involved in photosynthesis and shared the Nobel Prize in 1988 with Johann Drenth and Hartmut Michel for the determination of the three-dimensional structure of a photosynthetic reaction center.
- February 22, 1956 U.S. released \$1 million worth of uranium for peaceful atomic power.
- February 23, 1924 Lejaren A. Hiller, Jr., a chemist-composer, was a researcher in cellulose chemistry and coinventor of computer music with Leonard M. Isaacson. This is his birthday.*
- February 24, 1981 The first atom of element 107 was observed at GSI Laboratory, Darmstadt, Germany.
- February 26, 1903 Giulio Natta, who was born on this date, discovered and elucidated stereospecific polymerization and stereoregular polymers. He was involved in the development of commercially important polymerization processes and shared the Nobel Prize in 1963 with Karl Ziegler for their discoveries in the field of the chemistry and technology of high polymers.
- February 28, 1814 This is the birthday of Philip Hench who shared the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1950 with Edward Calvin Kendall and Tadeus Reichstein for their discoveries relating to the hormones of the adrenal cortex, their structure and biological effects.

*A symposium on chemist-composers will be held at the next ACS National Meeting in Atlanta on March 28, 2006.

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Upcoming events

- April 1, 2006 Saturday, 3rd Annual MD ACS Earth Day Event, Project Clean Stream, Herring Run Park, Baltimore, Md., 9am - 12pm
- April 4, 2006 Student Awards Dinner, McDaniel College
- May 26, 2006 50-year Membership Luncheon, Belmont
- May 31, 2006 Remsen Award, Johns Hopkins University
- July 9, 2006 Sunday, MD ACS Section Picnic, Patapsco Valley State Park, McKeldin Area, 11am - 2pm

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