

# Silicon Valley Chemist

Santa Clara Valley Section

American Chemical Society

Volume 28 No. 4

## Synopsys Championship Held at San Jose Convention Center

The local science and engineering fair for the Silicon Valley, the Synopsys Championship, was held on Thursday, March 9, all day at the San Jose Convention Center - South Hall.

Nearly 1000 projects crossing all areas of science and engineering were exhibited and judged by local volunteer scientists and engineers. There are two types of judges:

Category judges for awards made by Synopsis - across the scientific spectrum. Indeed, Synopsys contributes over \$1,000,000 a year to local schools for projects and to the success of the Championship.

Bruce Raby, Howard Peters and others from our Santa Clara Valley ACS Local Section were judges for ACS special awards. Dr. Roy Okuda of

SJSU, our local judging stalwart, was not present as a judge for the first time in years. He is on sabbatical at UC-Santa Barbara until late March.

Our local ACS winners will receive their awards at Paramount-Great America on Sunday April 2 and will be announced in next month's newsletter.

Our local fair is a feeder for the INTEL International Science and Engineering Fair (INTEL ISEF) to be held in Indianapolis, IN on May 7-11.

Both Okuda and Peters plan to be invited judges at this INTEL ISEF in May - only a few weeks before the INDY 500. Anyone else planning to be a judge? More information is available on the web at [www.science-fair.org](http://www.science-fair.org) for our local fair and at [www.sciserv.org](http://www.sciserv.org) for the INTEL ISEF.

## April Dinner Meeting Reminder

On April 20, 2006 join Dr. Mina Bissell as she presents a lecture, entitled "How Does the Breast Remember It Is a Breast, and How It May Forget and Become Breast Cancer." Given that all tissues share the same DNA sequences, the question of how tissue specificity is maintained and how it goes awry in cancer is a central problem in biology. Dr. Bissell will provide an overview on how her laboratory at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory has developed "designer microenvironments" in three-dimensional (3D) cultures to study the role of the microenvironment and tissue architecture in normal and malignant cells. She will also discuss how these external factors shape signal transduction in tissues.



Dr. Bissell

We will convene at the Biltmore Hotel and Suites in Santa Clara, which is located at 2151 Laurelwood Road, starting at 6:00 p.m. for registration and social hour and 7:00 p.m. for dinner. The \$27.00 dinner includes your choice of

Grilled Fillet of Salmon or Vegetarian Crepes. Wine is included with the dinner.

Please make your reservations by Monday, April 17th, either online at [www.scvacs.org](http://www.scvacs.org) or by contacting Shirley Radding (Phone: 408-246-2564). Reservations should state your name, address, company affiliation, and the number of people in your party. If you are unable to honor your reservation and do not call to cancel by Wednesday, April 19th, you will be invoiced following the dinner meeting.



## Call for Nominations Shirley B. Radding Award

The Santa Clara Valley Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS) announces the call for nominations for the 2006 Shirley B. Radding Award.

First awarded in 1994 to its namesake, the Shirley B. Radding Award

annually honors someone who has been a member of the ACS for at least 20 years. Nominees must have demonstrated dedicated, unselfish leadership, service and significant contributions over a sustained

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## Chair's Message

Welcome to our April newsletter. We hope you find the newsletters informative and interesting. If you have any suggestions for improvements, interesting articles, or fascinating dinner meeting speakers, we want to hear from you. The names, phone numbers, and email addresses of the Executive Committee members (including the Newsletter Editor) appear on the last page of each newsletter.

Speaking of the Newsletter, you will probably see monthly reminders to:

- join our email group at [SCVACS-newsletters-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:SCVACS-newsletters-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) to receive a monthly reminder the newsletter has been posted on our web site, or
- mail us a letter stating you want to continue receiving hard copy of the newsletter.

We plan to transition from hard copy to web site posting in August and do not want you to miss an issue.

I would like to share some exciting information with you: Your Local Section Annual Report was submitted to the National ACS office on time! I know, I know, the excitement is almost more than you can bear. A copy of the annual report is posted on our web site ([scvacs.org](http://scvacs.org)) for those of you who:

- want to know more about what our local section accomplished last year, or
- have occasional insomnia

The annual report is required of each local section by the national organization, compiled by your Executive Committee members, and recounts in considerable detail all of our monthly dinner meetings, financial status, community outreach and educational efforts, goals for the upcoming year, and an evaluation of how we did on last years goals. Oh, you're still waiting for the exciting part? The exciting parts are that getting the report turned in before the deadline means:

- the National Organization will release to the local section our share of money needed to run our many monthly meetings, educational, and outreach programs and
- our innovative program to go to colleges and universities in our local section boundaries and conduct interview skills training and one-on-one mock interviews with local chemistry and chemical engineering students will be eligible to be considered for a Chemluminary award by the National American Chemical Society. This program was conceived and written by Dr. Bonnie Charpentier (recently elected to the National ACS Board of Directors). Bonnie, along with volunteers from our local section and the neighboring California Section, conducted interview skills training workshops on several local college campuses. These workshops were well received and much applauded by the students who attended. Bonnie still has openings for more trainers. If you are interested in participating in this year's training at local colleges and universities, please contact Bonnie at [charpentierbon@yahoo.com](mailto:charpentierbon@yahoo.com).

See you at our April dinner meeting.

Dave Parker

period of time to industrial, applied or academic chemistry and to the ACS through elected or appointed positions at local, district and national levels.

### Award Criteria

- Member of the American Chemical Society for more than twenty (20) years.
- Demonstrated dedicated and unselfish service to ACS and its members over a sustained period of time.
- Provided leadership through elected and appointed ACS positions at local, district and national levels.
- Made significant contributions to industrial, applied or academic chemistry.

### Previous Award Recipients

1994 Shirley B. Radding  
1995 Agnes Ann Green (deceased)  
1996 John F. Riley  
1997 Howard M. Peters  
1998 Alan C. Nixon (deceased)  
1999 Valerie J. Kuck  
2000 Halley A. Merrell  
2001 Norman A. LeBel (deceased)  
2002 Paul H. L. Walter  
2003 Jean'ne M. Shreeve  
2004 Maureen G. Chan  
2005 Glenn Fuller

The award consists of an honorarium of \$1,000 and a suitably inscribed memento. Nominations must consist of at least one letter of nomination stating how the nominee's work relates to all aspects of the award. It is strongly recommended that seconding letters accompany the nomination.

Nominations are due on or before May 1, 2006, and must be mailed to:

Radding Award Committee  
Santa Clara Valley Section ACS  
P. O. Box 395  
Palo Alto, CA 94302



## Palma High School Science Fair

Palma High School in Salinas held its first ever science fair in January. 300 students participated by choosing projects, researching background information, running experiments, displaying their results, and defending their findings to judges. 200 high school students and 100 junior high students displayed their results on Saturday, January 28th. As the school has a student population of 624, over half participated! Congratulations!

### ***The top five winners in the high school division were:***

Corin Hamilton	Acids & Bases: Their Neutralization
Brian Bennett	Water: the Irregular Liquid
John Bonono	Insulators: Resistance to Heat Flow
Kyle Dangerfield	Proteins: Changes by Denaturing
Garrett Sabaska	Oxygen: Combined and Free

### ***The top five in the junior high division were:***

Chris D'Arrigo	Mega-Absorbers
Maxwell Balbin	Molecular Motion
Mark Graeber	Vitamin C Content
Mark Starritt	Carbon Dioxide
Alexander Reyes	Minerals

Local Section member, John Chipley, was the overall organizer. He did an amazing job with the planning, convincing local companies to donate wood for tables (an unexpected need!), getting judges, as well as teaching his classes and helping his students with their projects! John, you did an amazing job!

Bruce Raby and Sally Peters, from the local section, joined the other volunteer judges from the Naval Post Graduate School and teachers from other local schools. It was a first time experience for some of us, and it went very smoothly. If you have the opportunity to judge a science fair at this level, take it! Besides being a good learning experience for the judge, it helps the students have a better understanding of science.



## 2005 Annual Report – On the Web Now!

It's that time of year again - Winter is turning into Spring, clear rain-free days are just around the corner, and the much anticipated 2005 Annual Report is now available on the section's website! To view the report, simply go to [www.scvacs.org](http://www.scvacs.org). From there, scroll to the bottom of the list of links on the left side of the home page. Happy viewing!

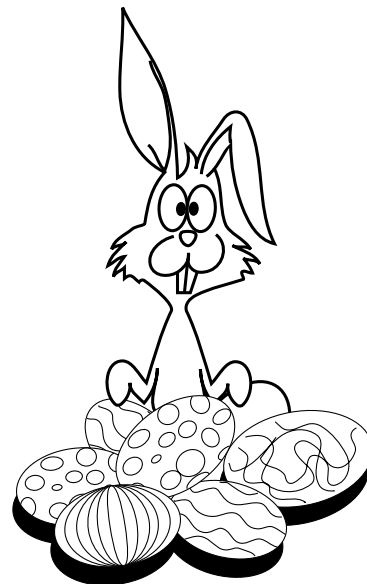
## New Members Santa Clara Valley Section, ACS

Welcome to the new members to the Santa Clara Valley section. This may come as a surprise to some of you! When you joined ACS, for national meetings or divisional activities, you automatically become a member of a local section. National assigns you to the section closest to your registration address, which could be your work or home address. We are glad you are a part of the Silicon Valley local section and would like to invite you to attend one of our monthly dinner meetings. A good first meeting to attend is our summer picnic and beer tasting event, which will be held on July 15th. This is strictly a social event, and it is a good time to meet some of our members!

If you have not visited our web page, it is at [www.scvacs.org/](http://www.scvacs.org/).

The web page is the most up to date information on our section. It contains information and registration for the monthly dinner meetings, immediate postings to ChemPloyment, minutes from the executive committee meeting, an archive of past newsletters, and links to items of local interest.

Join us at a meeting, volunteer to help at a Science Fair, or attend an executive committee meeting to get involved! Again welcome to your local section of the American Chemical Society and we hope to see you soon!



## 2006 Ottenberg Service Award, Call for Nominations

It is again time to nominate candidates for the Abraham Ottenberg Service Award of the Santa Clara Valley Section.

This Award was established in 1973 by the Santa Clara Valley Section to recognize members who have rendered outstanding service to the Section. It is named after Abraham Ottenberg, a former member who devoted much of himself to service to the Section. The award consists of an engraved plaque and a check for two hundred dollars. The award recipient is selected from candidates nominated by members of the Section. Nominees must be members or affiliates of the Santa Clara Valley Section.

Previous recipients are:

1974 Shirley B. Radding  
1975 Oliver F. Senn  
1976 Floyd M. Hobbs

1977 Frank R. Mayo  
1978 Harry S. Mosher  
1979 Lois J. Durham  
1980 Richard W. Gaver  
1982 Alan C. Ling  
1983 Ludwig A. Mayer  
1983 John F. Riley  
1984 Howard M. Peters  
1986 June G. Jones  
1986 Robert L. Montoya  
1987 Malcolm Dole  
1991 Donald E. Green  
1992 Hubert E. Dubb  
1993 Karl Marhenke  
1994 Stephen N. Senzer  
1995 Carol W. Mosher  
1998 Bonnie Charpentier  
1999 Linda Brunauer  
2000 Herbert B. Silber  
2001 Sally Peters  
2002 Jamil Talhouk  
2003 Ean Warren

2004 Maureen Scharberg  
2005 Hong Gao

The nominating letter should include a brief biography of the candidate and a description or evaluation of the service(s) to be recognized by the award. Seconding nominations are not required but will be accepted.

Nominations should be sent to:

### *Chair*

**Ottenberg Award Committee**  
**Santa Clara Valley Section, ACS**  
**P. O. Box 395, Palo Alto, CA 94302**

Nominations must be received by June 1, 2006 to be considered for the 2006 award.

## Summer Chemistry Workshop for Grades 4-8 Teachers

The Science Education Program and the Department of Chemistry at San Jose State University are pleased to present a professional development workshop for elementary and middle school teachers (grades 4-8). The ACS "Inquiry Matters – Incorporating Inquiry into Elementary and Middle School Physical Science" will be held at San Jose State University from Monday, June 19, 2006 through Wednesday, June 21, 2006. James Kessler, Senior Program Manager, K-to-8 Science Office from ACS National in Washington, DC and Maureen Scharberg, Director of Science Education and Professor of Chemistry at SJSU will be presenting this workshop. The enrollment is limited to 24 teachers. Interested teachers should e-mail Ann Baldwin at [abaldwin@jupiter.sjsu.edu](mailto:abaldwin@jupiter.sjsu.edu) for an application. The postmarked deadline is April 30, 2006. Please pass this information to any teacher who you feel might be interested in attending. If you have any questions regarding this workshop, please contact Maureen Scharberg at [mscharberg@earthlink.net](mailto:mscharberg@earthlink.net). Funding for this workshop is provided by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Teacher Quality Enhancement Program.

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## "Biopolymers: Polymers in Medicine" A Three-day Short Course

May 5-7, 2006 Sponsored by the Golden Gate Polymer Forum  
Hosted by Guidant Corporation, 3200 Lakeside Drive, Santa Clara, CA 95054

This three-day short course will provide an excellent introduction to the properties, characterization, processing and applications of biopolymer materials in medicine for those who have not had a formal course, or for anyone who might like an up-to-date refresher course by three well-regarded instructors and researchers. The combination of excellent experienced teachers, a convenient location in the Bay Area, a low price, and the convenient timing (one regular work day, Friday, and two weekend days), makes this an exceptional opportunity.

Please mention to those of your colleagues and friends who are not on the GGPF mail list but who might benefit from this introductory course. Many people who work with polymers in medicine have had little opportunity for classroom exposure to this special class of materials or cannot find the time away from work to take a full-semester class. This short course should be highly useful for anyone in such a situation, and we believe it represents excellent value.

### **Instructors:**

Professor Allan S. Hoffman, University of Washington

<http://depts.washington.edu/bioe/people/core/hoffman/hoffman.html>

Professor Stuart K. Williams, University of Arizona

<http://www.absc.arizona.edu/%7Ewilliams/>

Professor Gary E. Wnek, Case Western Reserve University

<http://www.cwru.edu/cse/ecbe/people/faculty/wnek/index.html>

**Registration:** Registration, housing, and course details are available at the Golden Gate Polymer Forum web site: [www.GGPF.org](http://www.GGPF.org).

**Cost:** \$495 on or before April 14, 2006; \$595 after April 14th.

Advanced registration and payment required. No reservations accepted after April 21st or when 120 attendees have registered.

## Highlights of the Joint Meeting of SCV-ACS in March with Dr. Claire Pomeroy, M.D.



Photos courtesy of Lois Durham

## CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACTS APRIL 2006

### CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACT 3848

*Position Title:* Associate Scientist - Drug Metabolism  
*Job Description:* Develop & apply efficient LC/MS/MS based assays for the quantification of small org. compds. From biological matrices. Maintain and troubleshoot LC/MS & LC/MS/MS instruments.

**QUALIFICATIONS DESIRED**  
*Education:* BS/MS in pharmaceutical sciences, Analytical Chemistry or Pharmacology.  
*Experience:* Strong background in bio-analytical chemistry for small organic compounds. Extensive exp. In chromatographic separations. Experience in problem solving in a drug discovery setting. Knowledge in pharmacokinetics, drug metabolism & organic chemistry. Good oral and written communication skills & computer skills.

**LOCATION, SALARY, MAIL ADDRESS**

*Location:* Foster City  
*Salary:* Depends on experience  
*Employer Description:* Gilead Sciences is a biopharmaceutical company that discovers, develops & commercializes innovative therapeutics in areas of unmet medical need.

*Application Instructions:* Please apply online at our website [www.gilead.com/careers](http://www.gilead.com/careers), referencing position number BF 6-595.

### CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACT 3849

*Position Title:* process Engineer, Recovery  
*Job Description:* The Process Science Group is looking for a dynamic engineer in protein recovery and purification. This individual will be a part of a team responsible for the hands-on development of biological production processes across all stages of process development - from discovery, scale-up to pilot production, and technology transfer to Genencor's manufacturing plants.

**QUALIFICATIONS DESIRED**  
*Education:* BS/MS in biochemical or chemical engineering  
*Experience:* Strong written and verbal communication skills. 0-3 years bioprocessing industrial exp., with hands-on emphasis. Strong team player. Self-starter with good organizational skills.

**LOCATION, SALARY, MAIL ADDRESS**

*Job Location:* Palo Alto  
*Employer Description:* Genencor is a diversified biotechnology company which discovers, develops and sells biocatalysts & other bio-products for the industrial, consumer & other bio-products for the industrial, consumer & agriprocessing markets. For more information go to [www.genencor.com](http://www.genencor.com).

*Application Instructions:* To apply: Please send resumes to [scvacs@genencorcareers.com](mailto:scvacs@genencorcareers.com) and reference job number 121-PA-06. Genencor is an equal opportunity employer.

### CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACT 3850

*Position Title:* Chemical Engineer Senior Consultant  
*Job Description:* A chem engineer to join its Process Economics Program (PEP) as a senior consultant. The job location is either in Woodlands, TX or Menlo Park, CA. PEP develops models & costs commercially-viable process designs for the chemical & other major industries, and conducts private research and process evaluations for individual clients.

**QUALIFICATIONS DESIRED**  
*Education:* MS or BS in chem engrg or chem or equivalent exp. MBA is a plus.  
*Experience:* 5-8 years of exp in process design. In addition, knowledge in evaluating chem proc technologies with a major chem company is preferable. Excellent written and verbal communication skills are required. Knowledge of AspenPlus and other process design and simulation and costing software is an advantage.

*Job Location:* Menlo Park, CA or Houston, TX  
*Salary:* Competitive salary with employee benefits  
*Employer Description:* SRI Consulting is a division of Access Intelligence LLC with offices in Menlo Park, CA, Houston, TX, Zurich, Beijing and Tokyo. For more information, please visit our Web site at [www.sriconsulting.com](http://www.sriconsulting.com).

*Application Instructions:* please send your resume to: Sandi Lucas, SRI Consulting, [jobs@sriconsulting.com](mailto:jobs@sriconsulting.com), Phone: 650-384-4318, Fax: 650-384-4273

*Happy  
Easter*





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## SANTA CLARA VALLEY SECTION

### 2005 Section Officers

Chair	<b>David Parker</b>	408-615-4961	<a href="mailto:dparker@ci.santa-clara.ca.us">dparker@ci.santa-clara.ca.us</a>
Chair Elect	<b>George Lechner</b>	408-226-7262	<a href="mailto:glechner@aol.com">glechner@aol.com</a>
Secretary	<b>Karl Marhenke</b>	831-688-4959	<a href="mailto:karlmar@armory.com">karlmar@armory.com</a>
Treasurer	<b>Herb Silber</b>	408-924-4954	<a href="mailto:hbsilber@sjsuvm1.sjsu.edu">hbsilber@sjsuvm1.sjsu.edu</a>
Past Chair	<b>Jack Riley</b>	925-256-4050	<a href="mailto:jfriley2004@sbcglobal.net">jfriley2004@sbcglobal.net</a>

### Councilors

2004-2006	<b>Linda Brunauer</b>	408-554-6947	<a href="mailto:lbrunauer@scu.edu">lbrunauer@scu.edu</a>
2004-2006	<b>Sally Peters</b>	650-812-4994	<a href="mailto:Sally.Peters@parc.com">Sally.Peters@parc.com</a>
2004-2006	<b>Peter Rusch</b>	650-961-8120	<a href="mailto:pfrusch@aol.com">pfrusch@aol.com</a>
2005-2007	<b>Herb Silber</b>	408-924-4954	<a href="mailto:hbsilber@sjsuvm1.sjsu.edu">hbsilber@sjsuvm1.sjsu.edu</a>
2006-2008	<b>Abby Kennedy</b>	650-837-8043	<a href="mailto:akennedy@exelixis.com">akennedy@exelixis.com</a>
2006-2008	<b>Jack Riley</b>	925-256-4050	<a href="mailto:jfriley2004@sbcglobal.net">jfriley2004@sbcglobal.net</a>
2006-2008	<b>Ean Warren</b>	650-329-4554	<a href="mailto:ewarren@scvacs.org">ewarren@scvacs.org</a>
2006-2008	<b>George Lechner</b>	408-226-7262	<a href="mailto:glechner@aol.com">glechner@aol.com</a>

### Alternate Councilors

2004-2006	<b>Ernest Gargas</b>	408-365-2866	<a href="mailto:eggargas@yahoo.com">eggargas@yahoo.com</a>
2004-2006	<b>Carol Mosher</b>	650-332-3120	<a href="mailto:carolmosher@sbcglobal.net">carolmosher@sbcglobal.net</a>
2005-2007	<b>Mark Kent</b>	408-736-0989	<a href="mailto:marklent@yahoo.com">marklent@yahoo.com</a>
2006-2008	<b>Ihab Darwish</b>	650-343-4456	<a href="mailto:darwishis@yahoo.com">darwishis@yahoo.com</a>
2006-2008	<b>David Parker</b>	408-615-4961	<a href="mailto:dparker@ci.santa-clara.ca.us">dparker@ci.santa-clara.ca.us</a>
2006-2008	<b>Bruce Raby</b>	408-294-6718	<a href="mailto:brida954@comcast.net">brida954@comcast.net</a>
2006-2008	<b>Ferenc Makra</b>	415-730-0387	<a href="mailto:ferenc.makra@roche.com">ferenc.makra@roche.com</a>
2006-2008	<b>Natalie McClure</b>	650-851-1052	<a href="mailto:nmclure@drugregulatoryaffairs.com">nmclure@drugregulatoryaffairs.com</a>

### Newsletter

Editor: **Carlene Freeman** 510-262-6900 [carlenefreeman@yahoo.com](mailto:carlenefreeman@yahoo.com)

### ChemPloyment Abstracts

Director: **Shirley B. Radding** 408-246-2564 [sbradding@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sbradding@sbcglobal.net)

## FUTURE MEETINGS

<b>Apr 20</b>	SCV Dinner Meeting Santa Clara, CA
<b>Apr 22</b>	Regional Chemistry Olympiad Livermore, CA
<i>No SCV Dinner Meeting Scheduled for May</i>	
<b>May 10</b>	Intel International Science and Engineering Fair Indianapolis, IN
<b>May 10-12</b>	Ninth World Congress on Biosensors Toronto, Canada
<b>May 21-24</b>	2006 Biennial Polymer Conference Key Biscayne, FL
<b>Jun 12-16</b>	39th National Organic Chemistry Symposium Salt Lake City, UT

For the latest information,  
please visit SCV/ACS web  
site: [www.scvacs.org](http://www.scvacs.org)



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