

Silicon Valley Chemist

Santa Clara Valley Section

American Chemical Society

Volume 29 No. 6

JUNE 2007 NEWSLETTER TOPICS

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Chemistry Olympiad Finalist Vikram Nathan



Vikram is the Santa Clara Valley finalist in the 2007 U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad. He scored among the top 20 high school students in the country on the national qualifying exams last month and has been invited to participate in the study camp at the Air Force Academy from June 3 to 17. The 39th International Olympiad competition occurs July 15 to 24 in Moscow, Russia.

As a sophomore at the Harker School in San Jose, Vikram is an enthusiastic, intelligent, and outgoing young man. Harker is a private school in San Jose known for its excellent math and science program. Vikram is a scientist at heart

who perhaps enjoys physics and math challenges more than chemistry! These preferences come naturally as his parents are engineers in the valley.

For extracurricular activities Vikram likes music and plays tennis noncompetitively. He plays the piano and sings in the a cappella chorus at school. He is also very active in Harker's National Forensics League chapter and travels around the country for debates.

As a sophomore it is too early to know if he will go into chemistry, physics, or math when he graduates, but his career will definitely be in science!

Annual Family Picnic and Awards Ceremony

Our next Section event will be our summer picnic on Saturday, July 14. It will feature a wine tasting of Fenestra Winery products. Also featured will be a catered picnic outside the Mudd chemistry building at Stanford and ceremonies honoring our 50-year members and other award winners.

50 year members

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Dr. Victor Edward Althouse | Mr. Gerard A. Blaufarb | Dr. Ian M Croll |
| Mr. Joseph M Greendorfer | Dr. William C. Landgraf | Dr. Karl Marhenke |
| Dr. William H Orttung | Dr. Jeanne H Osiecki | Dr. George A Parks |
| Dr. Dean Taylor | Mr. Richard Tunder | Dr. Ritchie A Wessling |

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RESERVATION FORM

Annual Family Picnic and Awards Ceremony

Stanford University – Saturday, July 14, 2007 Deadline for Reservation – Monday, July 9, 2007

Name(s): _____ Telephone No.: (_____) _____

No. of Reservations at \$16.00 _____

No. of Children (age of 4-12) at \$5.00 _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Make check payable to: Santa Clara Valley Section – ACS

Mail check and reservation form to: Ms. Shirley Radding, 2994 Cottonwood Court, Santa Clara, CA 95051

Please check if you can volunteer: I can help set-up I can help clean-up

Chair's Message

Here it is – June. The year is zipping by way too fast. Is this because I'm old(er), or is that just the way it is?

Those of you who were not able to attend the May dinner meeting and hear our speaker, Dr. Joylette Portlock, missed a tremendous talk on global climate change and its effects on people, continents, weather, and the earth's ecological systems. Go to <http://www.theclimateproject.org> for more information.

Don't forget to sign up for the Annual Family Picnic at Stanford on July 14. Check the newsletter at our website, <http://www.scvacs.org>.

Remember, National Chemistry Week is coming up soon, in October. Volunteers will be needed to help with the various NCW events being planned by Abby Kennedy and her NCW committee. Please check to see whether you could spend some time helping out and let Abby know. Her email is akennedy@exelixis.com

At the ACS National Meeting in Chicago last March, I attended a Silver Circle breakfast gathering of older chemists who have given many years of service to the Society. A major topic of discussion was the development of Silver Circles within ACS sections throughout the country. Many groups are already formed in other sections and they consist mainly of senior chemists who can participate on an occasional basis in events and other activities that interest them, such as lunchtime meetings, public outreach, community involvement, Chemistry Olympiad, National Chemistry Week, working with the Younger Chemists Committee, mentoring, etc. I propose that the Santa Clara Valley Section have such a group, or groups as the need arises, formed to provide an outlet for our senior chemists to continue their service to the Society. For example, one of our senior members has suggested that we have chemists identified and willing to provide free consultation advice to media journalists to help keep news articles factual and up to date when stories about chemicals or chemical events are written. A Silver

Annual Family Picnic and Award Ceremony, continued from front page

60 year members

Mr. Walter M Carlson	Dr. Dale M Coulson	Mr. John F Creedon
Mr. Noboru Endow	Mrs. Marjorie Ottenberg	Dr. Gunther Steinberg
Dr. Jerome Douglas Swalen	Dr. Frank Weisenborn	Dr. Ruth P Yaffe

Armadillo Willy's will cater the picnic, as they did last year. The tentative menu will include:

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| • Barbequed chicken | • Beef brisket | • Willy's beans |
| • Spicy peanut slaw | • Corn bread muffins | • Beer, soda, water |
| • Dessert | | |

Where: The Stanford Chemistry Department.

When: 4:30 p.m. Wine Tasting
5:30 p.m. Buffet BBQ Dinner
7:00 p.m. Awards

Directions:

From Route 101 (Bayshore Freeway): Take University Avenue west through Palo Alto. It becomes Palm Drive on the Stanford Campus. Turn right on Roth Way and continue to the Chemistry Department. Park in the parking structure on your right. Keck and Mudd chemistry buildings are across Roth Way from the parking structure.

From Route 280: Take the Sand Hill Road exit. Drive east and turn right on Stock Farm Road. Then turn left on Campus Drive West and right on Roth Way. Park in the parking structure immediately on your left. Keck and Mudd chemistry buildings are across Roth Way from the parking structure.

Reservations:

A reservation form for this event is on the front page. You can also make reservations by accessing the Internet at our website: www.scvacs.org/Local_Folder/din_mtg.html.

Remember, this is the one meeting where you have to send a payment with your reservation. The cost will be the same as it was last year: \$16 for adults, \$5 for kids 4-12, and kids under 4 free. Reservations and payments must be received by Monday, July 9.

Circle group would be of great value in this instance. Another example of a possible activity for a Silver Circle group is for those chemists who cannot attend an evening dinner meeting during the week. We could or would offer a Saturday breakfast or lunch with fellow chemists. The purpose would be to socialize or get involved with a chemistry-related project as mentioned above.

The Section has a large geography and over 3000 members with many senior chemists included. I would like to see how we could establish Silver Circle groups in those areas where there might be a "critical mass" of interested senior chemists. Initially, there could be groups formed in the south part of the Section (i.e., Monterey

County, southern Santa Clara County and San Benito County), and, of course, in the greater San Jose/Palo Alto area as well as San Mateo County. To do this, I would like to talk to anyone who might have an interest in helping to form a Silver Circle. Interested?? Let me know.

George Lechner



Frontiers in Chemistry, Biopharmaceuticals & Biotechnology 41st Annual American Chemical Society, Western Regional Meeting

October 9-13, 2007 San Diego, CA

The 41st annual meeting of the Western Region of the ACS will be taking place this year on October 9-13, 2007 in San Diego. Registration will be open May 1, 2007. Now is the time to begin planning your travel reservations!

For more information on conference registration, go to www.wrmacs.org. The Organizing Committee and Scientific Advisory Board have assembled an incredible diversity of symposia and high profile speakers programmed loosely around the meeting's title: Frontiers in Chemistry, Biopharmaceuticals & Biotechnology. Great science, great events, and a great place to make connections!

TECHNICAL PROGRAM

Go to <http://www.wrmacs.org/program.html> to download the most up-to-date listing of symposia and a snapshot of committed speakers.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Two spectacular signature events capture the professionalism, energy, and buzz surrounding the meeting's title.

Kick-Off Lecture

On October 9th, 2007, Professor K. C. Nicolaou of the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla will deliver the meeting's Kick-Off lecture, "Chemistry, Biology and Medicine of Natural Products". See www.wrmacs.org/kickoff.html to learn more about this exciting night of science and networking. The Kick-Off lecture is free to all registered attendees.

U.S.S. Midway Extravaganza

On October 10th, 2007, the meeting will host an evening extravaganza on the flight deck of the U.S.S. Midway. The evening will feature a cocktail hour on the flight deck of the Midway overlooking the San Diego Bay and a Keynote Lecture by Dr. Harry B. Gray, the Arnold O. Beckman Professor of Chemistry at Caltech. Dr. Gray's lecture is entitled "Powering the Planet with Solar

Energy". Space is limited so reserve early. Visit www.wrmacs.org/midway.html to learn more.

HOTELS AND HOUSING

Doubletree Hotel
San Diego-Mission Valley
7450 Hazard Center Dr.
San Diego, CA 92108
Tel: 619-297-5466
Fax: 619-297-5499

Room Rate Specials:

We have negotiated with the hotel bargain rates of \$129/night for meeting attendees. These rates will be available three days before and after the meeting if you wish to extend your enjoyment in San Diego. Be sure to specify your attendance at the WRM. The hotel web page can be accessed through the following link:

www.doubletree.com/en/dt/hotels/index.jhtml?ctyhocn=SDGO-DT with links to driving instructions.

Transportation:

The hotel is about 4.5 miles from San Diego's Lindbergh Field, about 12 minutes' drive.

Complimentary Airport Shuttle Pick-up Only is available. Shuttle Service to the San Diego Airport is \$5.00. Transportation requests after hours are provided by Cloud 9 at a minimal expense to the guest. Typical taxi minimum charge is \$15.00.

Parking:

There is a \$12 garage self-parking fee and \$15.00 valet parking fee for overnight guests. There is also parking in the adjacent shopping center lot.

The 41st Western Regional Meeting Kick-off Lecture "Chemistry, Biology and Medicine of Natural Products"

Guest Speaker: Dr. K.C. Nicolaou

Abstract

Natural products have historically provided synthetic chemists with fertile platforms for discovery and development in the areas of chemical synthesis, chemical biology and medicinal chemistry. Such opportunities continue to fascinate and deliver new science as new structures come under scrutiny by synthetic chemists. In this lecture, a number of total synthesis endeavors will be discussed with emphasis on inventions in chemistry, biology, and medicine.

Biography

K.C. Nicolaou was born on July 5, 1946, in Cyprus where he grew up and went to school until the age of 18. In 1964, he went to England where he spent two years learning English and preparing to enter the University. He studied chemistry at the University of London (B.Sc., 1969, Bedford College, First Class Honors; Ph.D. 1972, University College, with Professors F. Sondheimer and P.J. Garratt). In 1972, he moved to the United States and after postdoctoral appointments at Columbia University (1972-1973, Professor T.J. Katz) and Harvard University (1973-1976, Professor E.J. Corey) he joined the faculty at the University of Pennsylvania, where he rose through the ranks to become the Rhodes-Thompson Professor of Chemistry. In 1989, he accepted joint appointments at the University of California, San Diego, where he is Professor of Chemistry, and The Scripps Research Institute where he is the Chairman of the Department of Chemistry and holds the Skaggs Professorship of Chemical Biology and the Darlene Shiley Chair in Chemistry.

Outstanding High School Students

On April 28th twelve of Silicon Valley's top chemistry students met at Santa Clara University to compete in the national testing for the 2007 Chemistry Olympiad. Eighteen students from the California section joined us for a grueling day of exams.

The students gave up a beautiful Saturday to spend 6 hours indoors working on problem sets, multiple-choice questions, and the 'killer' lab problems! At the end of the day when we were going over the possible solutions for the lab questions, one of the five young women present said, "We had just destroyed everything she thought she knew about chemistry" and her 29 companions nodded in agreement.

If you would like a taste of what they were dealing with go to the 2007 exams at <http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/acdisplay.html?DO>

C=education\student\co02.html

As in the past only 12 local schools and about 140 students participated. This is the first year that both Palo Alto high schools were involved. I now understand that most of the high schools in our section do not even offer AP chemistry. I encourage all of the teachers to use the preliminary exam as a sample test for their honors and AP classes.

Special thanks go to our volunteers: George Lechner, Stephanie Gehling, Dennis Law, Howard Peters, and Jane Frommer. Santa Clara University provided the facilities and Dr. Linda Brunauer volunteered her time to set up the lab experiments for the 30 students. The section provided lunch and snacks for everyone. Thanks everyone!

Our finalists and their dedicated

teachers are (drum roll please!):

- Gunn High
Jiajie Lu and Phillip Wu
Teacher: Heather Mellows
- Harker School
Vikram Nathan and Kevin Wang
Teacher: Andrew Chen
- Kings Academy
Ted An and Leah Rajaratnam
Teacher: Jason Rose'
- Lynbrook High
Jeremy Feng and Patricia Li
Teacher: Judy Wu
- Monta Vista High
Matthew Marshall
Teacher: Travis Hambleton
- Palo Alto High
Gilbert Choi
Teacher: Carolina Sylvestri
- Palma High
Madison Calder & Matt Boensel
Teacher: John Chipley

Highlights from the May 17 Dinner Meeting

Photos courtesy of Lois Durham



CHEMEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACTS JUNE 2007

CHEMEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACT 3888

Position Title: Quality Control Program Director, Biosciences Division

Job Description: Plans, organizes, and manages resources on projects totaling 4-10 person years to assure technical and regulatory quality, budget, and schedule adherence. Conceives, directs, plans, designs, and executes method development, method validation, and testing for formulation development, GLP dose verification, and GMP quality control activities.

QUALIFICATIONS DESIRED:

Education: MS/PhD, analytical chemistry or related science, 10+ yrs professional experience required with a minimum 5 years cGMP supervisory experience.

Experience: Substantial knowledge of separation methods, spectroscopy, wet chemistry, and physical test methods for small molecules. Extensive knowledge of cGMP, GLP, and IND requirements is essential. Expertise in protein analysis desirable. For complete description, please visit www.sri.com/jobs.

LOCATION, SALARY, MAIL ADDRESS:

Job Location: Menlo Park, CA (San Francisco Bay Area)

Salary: DOE

Employer Description: SRI International, an independent non-profit organization, is a leader in the development of new products for the treatment and diagnosis of disease primarily in the areas of cancer, infection, neuroscience, and immunology.

Application Instructions: To see the full description and to apply, please go to: <https://sri.ats.hrsmart.com/cgi-bin/a/highlightjob.cgi?jobid=3382> SRI is an equal opportunity employer. Learn more about other career opportunities at: www.sri.com/jobs

CHEMEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACT 3889

Position Title: Research Scientist I - Pharmaceuticals

Job Description: Will support compound selection and lead optimization of drug candidates by measuring physical chemical properties, analyzing drug substances and drug products, and developing formulations for early preclinical studies. Will also be charged with developing a working knowledge of cGMPs, GLPs and formulation processes such as milling, granulating and capsule filling.

QUALIFICATIONS DESIRED:

Education: PhD or equivalent in Chemistry and 2+ years experience; Postdoctoral experience preferred.

Experience: We are in search of a candidate possessing a Knowledge of HPLC is essential, as is familiarity with GLP, GMP and solid-state techniques (DSC, TGA, XRD preferred). Strong laboratory and computer skills are also essential.

LOCATION, SALARY, MAIL ADDRESS:

Job Location: Palo Alto, CA

Salary: DOE

Employer Description: At Roche Palo Alto, we are committed to innovation in the discovery and early clinical development of human pharmaceuticals.

Application Instructions: To apply for this position, please visit our career website at <http://paloalto.roche.com/careers/Careers.html> and search by keyword Chemistry, Job Requisition 100544

CHEMEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACT 3890

Position Title: Staff Organic Synthesis Chemist

Job Description: The successful candidate will play a crucial role in the rapid commercialization of new state-of-the-art fluorescent dyes and nucleic acid derivatives for a broad range of Life Science applications. This chemist will design and develop robust multistep synthetic processes for the preparation of these heterocyclic target compounds and will oversee the transfer of these processes into our manufacturing environment.

QUALIFICATIONS DESIRED:

Education: Ph.D in Organic Chemistry

Experience: 5-10 years of relevant industrial experience. Other requirements include demonstrated skill in organic synthesis and experience with current spectroscopic and chromatographic instrumentation. Experience with heterocyclic/heteroaromatic and/or nucleoside chemistry is highly desirable. Project leadership or supervisory experience is beneficial.

LOCATION, SALARY, MAIL ADDRESS:

Job Location: Foster City, CA

Salary: Negotiable

Employer Description: Applied Biosystems has demonstrated its position as a technology leader and driving force in the changing dynamics of the life science marketplace. The Applied Biosystems business is focused on the following markets: basic research, commercial research (pharmaceutical and biotechnology) and standardized testing, including forensic human identification, paternity testing and food testing. The company has an installed base of approximately 180,000 instrument systems in nearly 100 countries.

Application Instructions: Interested candidate please send your resume to (http://www.resumeware.net/applera_rw/applera_web/job_detail.cfm?key=7108&ReferredId=24) or diasse@appliedbiosystems.com

CHEMEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACT 3891

Position Title: Bioanalytical Assoc/Biochemist

Job Description: Enhance customer experience by driving improvements in product, protocol, and training. Evaluate assay results to improve or develop new processes, or to develop applications of findings to new uses for microfluidic based biochemical assays. Assess existing processes and/or products in order to optimize and produce final result within specifications.

QUALIFICATIONS DESIRED:

Education: Bachelor Science, Bio-Chemistry or related field; Master's preferred

Experience: Significant experience in biochemical instrumentation; data interpretation & use of various analysis tools/ software; fundamental understanding of microfluidic based biochemical assays; hands-on, capable of planning & executing experiments independently; excellent communication skills; results oriented; self motivated; work independently as well as on project teams.

LOCATION, SALARY, MAIL ADDRESS:

Job Location: Mountain View, CA

Salary: Depends on experience

Employer Caliper is a leading provider of drug discovery and life sciences research solutions for the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries spanning in vitro and in vivo experimentation.

Application Instructions: Please apply online at www.caliperLS.com or go to link: http://search1.smartsearchonline.com/caliperls/JOBS/jobdetails.asp?current_page=1&city=&location=&job_type=&emp_status=&direct_jo_num=&country=&k1=&k2=&k3=&k4=&k5=&k6=&k7=&k8=&salary_min=&co_num=&apply=yes&job_number=245



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Newsletter

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FUTURE MEETINGS

Mark your calendars for these great upcoming events.

Jun 17-20	Polymers in Medicine and Biology Santa Rosa, CA
Jul 14	Annual Wine Tasting and Awards Picnic Stanford, CA
Jul 18	BioScience Forum Dr. Mathai Mammen <i>www.biosf.org/programs.htm</i>
Aug 11	CA Section's WCC meeting Dr. Carolyn Bertozzi <i>www.calacs.org/calendar/ WCCSummerMeet07.html</i>
Aug 19-23	234th National ACS Meeting Boston, MA
Sep 9-11	Advances in Structure-based Drug Discovery San Francisco, CA
Sep 11	Section Dinner Meeting TBD
Oct 9-13	Western Regional Meeting San Diego, CA