

Silicon Valley Chemist

Santa Clara Valley Section

American Chemical Society

Volume 32 No. 10

OCTOBER 2010 NEWSLETTER TOPICS

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Chair's Message

There is great news: Dr. Robert Galemmo has agreed to become our public relations contact with the media and public, and Aaron Novack has agreed to become the editor of our newsletter, the Silicon Valley Chemist. Please give either or both of them your thanks and welcome them if and when you meet them.

National Chemistry Week (NCW) is an annual October event. If you can, offer Abby Kennedy (akennedy@exelixis.com) your help. Details of local NCW activities are in the Newsletter and on our website (www.scvacs.org).

November has a wonderful event, the Teacher-Scholar Award evening featuring our national ACS president, Dr. Joseph Francisco as speaker. November is also election time for our Section officers. We would like to have more members run for

continued on next page

November Dinner Meeting

The Chemical Enterprise: Thinking and Acting Globally; 2010 Teacher-Scholar Award Presentation

Dr. Joseph Francisco, President of American Chemical Society

Joseph S. Francisco completed his undergraduate studies in Chemistry at the University of Texas at Austin with honors, and he received his Ph.D. in Chemical Physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1983. Dr. Francisco spent 1983-1985 as a Research Fellow at



Cambridge University in England, and following that he returned to MIT as a Provost Postdoctoral Fellow.

He has been an Assistant Professor at Wayne State University, and a Visiting Associate in Planetary Science at the California Institute of Technology. He has been a professor at Purdue University since 1986.

He served as President for the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCCChE) from 2005-2007. In 2008 he was elected into the ACS presidential cycle, and he is currently President of the American Chemical Society.

He has published over 400 peer-reviewed publications in the fields of atmospheric chemistry, chemical kinetics, quantum chemistry, laser photochemistry and spectroscopy.

Professor Francisco has received numerous national and international honors for his academic accomplishments. He was recently awarded an Alexander von Humboldt U.S. Senior Scientist Award by the German government, as well as being appointed a Senior Visiting Fellow at the Institute of Advanced Studies at the University

of Bologna, Italy. He has been appointed to and served on committees for the National Research Council, National Science Foundation, American Chemical Society, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

November Dinner Meeting

Date: MONDAY, November 15, 2010

Time: 6:00 Social Hour
7:00 Dinner
8:00 Presentation

Location: Biltmore Hotel & Suites
2151 Laurelwood Blvd.
Santa Clara, CA 95054

Speaker: Dr. Joseph Francisco, President, American Chemical Society
The Chemical Enterprise: Thinking and Acting Globally; Teacher-Scholar Award Presentation

Cost: \$27.00 with a choice of:
Filet of Salmon or Pasta Primavera

Reservations: www.scvacs.org
Sally Peters 650-812-4994

Reservations should be made by November 10th stating your name, address, company affiliation, number of people in party. Watch the web site for more information. If you are unable to honor your reservation and do not cancel by Thursday, November 11, you will be invoiced following the dinner meeting.

office; you can run by write-in or by petition. Contact Floyd Hobbs or Karl Marhenke for information, or see our

website.

October begins the season of holidays. Enjoy what they offer and reflect on their meanings.

Reminder **October Dinner Meeting** Reminder

Career Opportunities in Biotechnology

Dr. Toby Freedman and Debbie Brennan

The October dinner meeting will include a short introductory talk on EnCorps by Debbie Brennan, followed by our featured October speaker, Dr. Toby Freedman.

Toby Freedman Biography

Toby is an author and the Founder and President of Synapsis Search. A scientist by training, she transitioned into business as a recruiter, writer, and entrepreneur.

Her book "Career Opportunities in Biotechnology and Drug Development", published by Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, provides a comprehensive overview of the many careers in the life sciences industry. It covers over twenty vocational areas ranging from venture capital to marketing to discovery research.

She founded her own recruiting firm, Synapsis Search, which is focused on executive R&D and business placements in the life sciences industry. She previously worked at BioQuest, an executive search firm, placing VP to CEO-level executives, and as Director of Business Development at SLIL Biomedical, a drug discovery company developing therapeutics for cancer and other diseases.

Toby earned her B.S. from the University of California, a Ph.D. in molecular biology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and as an NIH Fellow, conducted postdoctoral research at Harvard University and at the University of Texas-Austin.

Toby is the Program Chair for the BioScience Forum, a non-profit educational forum serving the Bay Area biotechnology community, and she also teaches classes in career development for the life sciences at UC Berkeley extension.

Toby's talk is titled "Career Opportunities in Biotechnology and Drug Development."

Abstract

There is a vast array of career oppor-



tunities for scientists in academia, biotechnology, pharma, medical devices, biofuels, health care and government. Toby will discuss the findings of her book, based on interviews with over 200 industry executives.

She will speak about the many opportunities in the life sciences discussed in the book, and talk about the current economy. If there is time remaining, she will talk about job search tips. With so many options available, it is important to identify the career that best matches your interests, skills, values and professional goals so that you can identify and embark on a fulfilling and meaningful career.

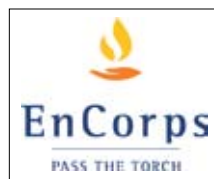
Debbie Brennan Biography

As the Community Development Consultant for EnCorps, Debbie Brennan performs a myriad of recruiting and placement activities:

- Building relationships with corporations, professional organizations, school districts and educational programs, and introduces the benefits of EnCorps partnership
- Counseling interested Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) professionals through the EnCorps process
- Reviewing applications and encouraging participation in preliminary assessment days
- Strengthening the core of new math and science teachers

Debbie has a background of technology and education experience, having been both a COBOL programmer for several years as well as a high school volunteer mentor and tutor for many years.

Her introductory talk is titled "Career Opportunities from the EnCorps Teachers Program."



October Dinner Meeting

Date: Thursday, October 14, 2010

Time: 6:00 Social Hour
6:45 Dinner
7:45 Presentation

Location: Cañada College
Building 9, Room 251
4200 Farm Hill Blvd.
Redwood City, CA

Speaker: Dr. Toby Freeman
Debbie Brennan
Career Opportunities in
Biotechnology

Cost: South of the Border Fajita Buffet
Only \$20 for members
\$10 for job seekers
Free for students!

Reservations:

www.scvacs.org
Sally Peters 650-812-4994

Reservations should be made by October 11th stating your name, address, company affiliation, number of people in party. Watch the web site for more information. If you are unable to honor your reservation and do not cancel by Tuesday, October 12, you will be invoiced following the dinner meeting.

Abstract

Are you ready to inspire the next generation of engineers, mathematicians and scientists?

The EnCorps Teachers Program offers training and support to STEM professionals interested in transitioning to teaching math and science.

EnCorps is a nonprofit dedicated to increasing the number of credentialed math and science teachers in under-served middle and high schools in California. Because the California credentialing process can be confusing and overwhelming, EnCorps provides assistance to transitioning professionals who've applied and been selected to join the EnCorps Teachers Program. The EnCorps Teachers Program presents a pathway for EnCorps educators to gain classroom experience while becoming eligible for teaching credentials. Well prepared teachers are more likely to become successful educators.

GREEN CHEMISTRY: Mission College, Santa Clara

By Dr. Jeanette Medina and Dr. Howard Peters

Late last month, 25 local high school and community college science instructors came to Mission College to hear internationally-renowned scientist and Green Chemistry leader, Dr. John Warner, explain the need for "Green" Chemistry.



In 1997, Dr. John Warner¹ wrote the seminal book on Green Chemistry titled *Green Chemistry: Theory and Practice*. Dr. Warner, then a chemistry professor at Boston University, soon established the Warner Babcock Institute² in Wilmington, MA to focus on ways to eliminate the use and generation of hazardous substances in chemical processes and the downstream effect that doing so will have on our environment.

Following Dr. Warner's remarks, Dr. Amy Cannon, Executive Director of Beyond Benign, a non-profit organization that promotes sustainable science, conducted a two-day workshop teaching high school, community college science teachers and instructors how to infuse the 12 *Principles of Green Chemistry*³ into their current curricula. Examples of these principles include: synthetic methodologies that generate substances that

possess little or no toxicity to human health and the environment, chemical products that break down into innocuous degradation products, and more generally, the idea that it is better to prevent harmful waste than it is to try to treat it after it is formed.

The focus of the two days of instruction was to show how substituting benign or neutral chemicals for their more toxic alternatives can be achieved with relative ease, without altering the desired chemical reaction. About the program, Dr. Cannon says that, "Beyond Benign looks for catalytic ways to bring green chemistry to the educational community. We highly value training teachers on green chemistry because teachers are wonderful multipliers of impact. By training one teacher, we are able to reach thousands of students each year through that one teacher. This is greater impact than we could ever hope to accomplish alone. Beyond Benign trains over 150 middle school, high school and community college instructors annually through their teacher training programs."

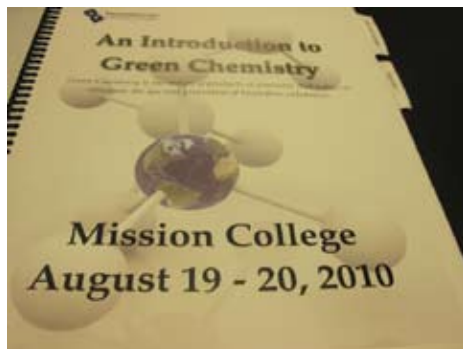
Santa Clara Valley section members Dr. Howard Peters, Dr. Mark Kent, and Dr. Jeanette Medina (recipient of our first Community College Teacher-Scholar Award) were among those who attended the event to lend a hand, and some valuable chemistry expertise. Reflecting on her experience, Dr. Medina said, "I think this workshop is a wonderful conversation starter. It allows us to

rethink chemistry, to stir the creativity juices, to view chemistry as the problem solver as opposed to the trouble maker, and to create materials that are harmless from the start to avoid potentially adverse consequences."

The chance to serve our community and help in making our environment a better and more sustainable place to live are just a few of the benefits to volunteering through ACS. Programs such as the one at Mission College serve to educate future scientists. As Dr. Medina states, we can find a way to, "reduce toxicity, reduce cost and reduce waste while introducing the same chemical principles we work on using traditional methods."

Notes:

1. www.warnerbabcock.com/about_wbi/john_warner.asp
2. www.warnerbabcock.com
3. www.warnerbabcock.com/green_chemistry/12_principles.asp



Celebrate NCW 2010 with Dr. Wow and Dr. Lang!

It's time to celebrate National Chemistry Week 2010! The week of October 17-23 is designated as our special week this year and we hope you will join our celebration of "Behind the Scenes with Chemistry!" This year's theme focuses on the fascinating use of chemistry for entertainment. We'll explore the special effects in movies to appreciate that it is not magic, but rather common chemical concepts which explain the mystery behind the "magic" that is shown. This year we have several great activities to help you celebrate

First up, our annual K-12 student poster contest is in full swing. Please visit www.chemistryweek.org for all the rules and tips. Entries are due in to local NCW Coordinator Abby Kennedy (akennedycali2007@yahoo.com) by Thursday, October 14 to be considered for the National contest.

To cap off the week, our fun annual public outreach booth will take place on National Mole Day--Saturday, October 23rd from 10 a.m. -1:30 p.m. at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library in downtown San Jose (150 East San Fernando Street). Of course, the crowd-favorite Wheel of Chemistry Fortune will be spinning for all kids to win a prize, and we'll have fun hands-on activities for kids. This will also be your opportunity to pick up your free copy of "Celebrating Chemistry", the NCW newsletter for elementary-aged children. To volunteer, or for more information, please contact Abby Kennedy (akennedycali2007@yahoo.com).

Immediately following our public outreach booth, please stay for our highlight event for NCW this year: world-renowned chemistry demonstrators, Dr. C. Marvin Lang and Doctor "Wow" (Donald Showalter) will present "The World of Chemistry" Saturday, October 23 at 2:00 p.m. at the San Jose State University, Science Building, Room 142. Their powerful show combines energy, explo-

sions, explanations of the chemistry, and many elements of surprise! This show is perfect for children just starting to have a ball with chemistry, all the way up to college-aged, and chemistry enthusiasts of all ages.

As part of their whirlwind NCW tour, Drs. Showalter and Lang will also be performing at the following venues and dates:

Oct. 17 - UC Santa Cruz: 2:00 p.m.,
Thimann Lecture Hall 3

Oct. 18 – St. Mary's College, Moraga:
7:00 p.m. Moraga Room, Soda Center
Oct. 19 – Sonoma State University
Oct 20 – Chico State University, 7:00 p.m.
Plumas 102
Oct 21 – Dominican College, 7:00 p.m.
Guzman Lecture Hall, Guzman Hall
Oct 22 – Cal State University East Bay:
6:00 p.m., South Science 143.
Oct 23 – San Francisco Exploratorium:
Teach the Teachers, 10:30 a.m.

Stephanie Gehling wins Ottenberg Award

The 2010 winner of the Abraham Ottenberg Service Award, given for outstanding service to the Santa Clara Valley Section, is Alternate Councilor Stephanie Gehling. The award plaque and check were presented to her by Ottenberg Committee Chair Lois Durham at the September meeting of the Executive Committee.

Stephanie volunteered on short notice in 2009 to be interim editor of the section's newsletter, and did an outstanding job despite the heavy demands of her regular job. She continued as editor even after the expected interim period ended, until a replacement was found late in the summer. The Section is very grateful for her diligent proofreading, and for meeting every newsletter deadline during her time as editor.



Welcome to the Santa Clara Valley Section of ACS

Each month the section receives a spreadsheet from national ACS with the names of members new to our section. The members are either new to ACS, have transferred in from other areas, or are the newest members -- the students. To welcome you to the section and get to know you, the Executive Committee offers new members a free dinner!! To encourage you to attend a monthly section dinner meeting, we would like you to be our guest. When you register, make certain to mention that you are a new member and you and a spouse (or friend) will be our guests. The dinner meetings are often the 3rd Thursday of the month at a local spot, somewhat convenient to the entire section. If you are unable to attend in the evening, perhaps you would join us for an outreach event, like judging a science fair, participating in the chemistry olympiad, or a national chemistry week event in October. Then, there is our annual wine tasting and awards picnic in July. The local section is a volunteer organization. Please attend an event, volunteer to help, and get to know your local fellow chemists. Welcome!!

New Members List for September

Dr. Frank Abild-Pedersen
Elizabeth M. Anderson
Caleb A. Bates
Timothy Bowden
Dr. Philip H. Bucksbaum
Dr. Alan C. Cheng
Pankaj R. Daga
Rebecca L. Davis
Dr. Anthony P. Ford

Dr. Paul T. Furuta
Serkan Y. Kabak
Vinit Gopal Kathardekar
Erik Krogh-Jespersen
Dr. Scott Le Grand
Dr. Xingrong Liu
Maria Montero Diez
Poul G. Moses
Marja Mullings

Michael R. Musumeci
Brooke Suzanne Olson Blair
Alexander Parkhomovskiy
Dr. Michael Schelle
Juliet Tabajonda
Dr. Christy L. Vogel
Dr. Jun Wang
Junpeng Xiao
Zhiyong Zhang



Councilors' Report from the Boston Meeting

The 240th national ACS meeting was held in Boston, Massachusetts, August 22-26. While California enjoyed its only warm part of this summer, your eight councilors enjoyed four days of rain in Boston! Yes, we were inside most of the time, but when we were not, it was grey, drizzly, blustery, and cold! But as one Boston councilor said, "My garden looks great!"

Meeting registration was respectable, considering the economy. As of August 24, the ACS fall national meeting had attracted 14,059 registrants. Totals are as follows: Regular attendees 8,211; Students 3,230; Guests 393; Exhibit Only 733; and Exhibitors 1,492. San Francisco meetings still hold the record with 18,064 registrants last Spring.

The Younger Chemist group held their traditional fun run and had 85 cold, wet runners!

The Committee on Professional

Training (CPT) announced at the council meeting that there are 663 colleges and universities offering ACS-approved bachelor's degree programs in chemistry, and 223 Ph.D.-granting schools.

According to the Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs, the career area was really bustling with 1066 chemists participating in workshops and interviews. Sixty-eight employers had 484 positions for which the chemists were interviewing. There will be another Virtual Career Fair on November 2 and 3.

The council met Wednesday morning from 8 until after 12:00. The candidates for the fall 2010 ACS national election that our section will vote on are:

President-Elect 2011

- Luis A. Echegoyen, Professor, University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, TX
- Bassam Z. Shakhshiri, Professor, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI

Directors-at-Large 2011-2013

- Janan M. Hayes, (Retired) Professor Emeritus, Merced College, Sacramento, CA
- Robert L. Lichter, Principal and Co-Founder, Merrimack Consultants, LLC, Barrington, MA
- Kathleen M. Schulz, President, Business Results Inc., Albuquerque, NM
- Kent J. Voorhees, Professor, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO

The ballots for the national election will be available electronically or in hard-copy on September 24th.

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

CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACTS OCTOBER 2010

For a complete list of current abstracts, please visit: www.scvacs.org/Local_Folder/abstract.htm

CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACT 3956

Position Title: Medicinal Chemist

Job Description: Highly motivated scientist member of 3-6 medicinal chemists team in a 25 person department of medium-sized pharmaceutical company. Designing target molecules, planning syntheses and executing the syntheses in collaboration with an experienced supervisor doing the same work. Requires fluency in written and spoken English, and a record of publications/presentations/patents.

QUALIFICATIONS DESIRED:

Education: PhD, prefer relevant post-doc experience also

Experience: 0-5 years in industrial drug discovery. Skilled in planning and executing synthetic organic chemistry. Knowledge of protein-small molecule interactions and/or small molecule pharmacology is a plus.

LOCATION, SALARY, EMPLOYER:

Job Location: South San Francisco, CA 94080

Salary: DOE

Employer: Elan is a neuroscience-based company based in Dublin, Ireland focused on developing new medicines for neurodegenerative diseases. Elan's principal research and development sites are in the United States and Ireland.

Application Instructions: Submit resumes directly to gary.probst@elan.com or lee.latimer@elan.com

Happy
Halloween





SANTA CLARA VALLEY SECTION
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 395, Palo Alto, CA 94302

Visit our web site at:



<http://www.scvacs.org>

To receive an email when our newsletter
is published on our web site, sign up at:
<http://www.scvacs.org/newsletter/>

SANTA CLARA VALLEY SECTION

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Chair-Elect	Abby Kennedy	209-640-2005	akennedy@exelixis.com
Past Chair	Natalie McClure	650-906-7831	nmclure@drugregulatoryaffairs.com
Secretary	Karl Marhenke	831-688-4959	karlmar@armory.com
Treasurer	Ihab Darwish	650-594-1654	darwishis@yahoo.com

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2010-2012	Sally Peters	650-812-4994	Sally.Peters@parc.com
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2010-2012	Stephanie Gehling	408-429-9681	s_gehling@hotmail.com
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Director **Charles Sullivan** 650-728-7034 cdansullivan@sbcglobal.net

FUTURE MEETINGS

Oct 14

SCV Dinner Meeting
Dr. Toby Freedman
Debbie Brennan
Career Opportunities in Biotechnology
Cañada College, Redwood City, CA

Oct 23

National Chemistry Week Celebration
Public Outreach 10 am to 1 pm
Martin Luther King Jr. Library
San José, CA

Oct 23

Dr. Donald Showalter
Dr. Marvin Lang
Dazzling Chemistry Show
Duncan Hall
San José State University

Nov 15

Dr. Joe Francisco, President of the
American Chemical Society
The Chemical Enterprise: Thinking
and Acting Globally; Teacher-Scholar
Award Presentation
Biltmore Hotel, Santa Clara, CA

Dec 15-20

PacificChem 2010
Honolulu, Hawaii
<http://pacificchem.org>