

# Silicon Valley Chemist

Santa Clara Valley Section

American Chemical Society

Volume 21 No. 12

## HUGE SUCCESS "Inventors Make a Difference Day"

On October 23rd the Santa Clara (Silicon) Valley local section of the ACS and the Intel Museum joined forces for the first time to create the "Inventors Make a Difference Day" Event as part of the national Make a Difference Day and



the Points of Light Foundation event. Several hundred students and parents attended the high tech museum and informal poster displays. Many local and national U.S. patents were presented. Many of the posters involved chemists and chemistry; however, because we are in the Silicon Valley, we also included a number of electronic and semiconductor inventions. The Tiger Woods Foundation gave permission for a one-time poster presentation concerning Tiger Woods' involvement in trademark and copyright law to protect his image and work.



Hundreds of ACS documents concerning invention, minority affairs, and local section activities were distributed. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office provided over 1000 copies of documents which were distributed to local school libraries. Information tables were available for the Museum of

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### Tardy Newsletter

As many of you already know, we are fighting a battle to get the Newsletter delivered in time for the meetings. However, we are not making much progress. I would like to suggest that you visit our website at [www.scvacs.org](http://www.scvacs.org). The meeting notices are posted as soon as the last meeting is over. You won't miss out on any meeting of importance to you that way.

Also the production staff is initiating some changes to make sure the newsletter is mailed to our members by the first of each month.

## APS Mass Media Fellowship 10-Week Summer Program

In affiliation with the popular AAAS program, APS will sponsor two ten-week fellowships for physics students to work full-time over the summer as reporters, researchers, and production assistants in mass media organizations nationwide.

**Purpose:** The program is meant to improve public understanding and appreciation of science and technology and to sharpen the ability of the fellows to commu-

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## Chairman's Message

Good Bye.

This will be my last message to you. Before I reminisce with you over the highlights of last year, I would like to thank my fellow members of the executive committee for their cooperation, which made my job easier. Also, I would like to express my appreciation to my employer, Enzyme Systems Products, for the ultimate support I received. I was given the time to attend meetings and conferences and conduct the section business. My company also made all resources of personnel and material available to the section and me during the past year.

It had been an excellent year. During my term as the Program Chairman, we tried to be receptive to your needs. We began with a career conference that brought a panel of experts, from the local as well as from the national scene. We looked to the Heavens with the NASA scientist to learn how earth was born. We learned about "Plantibodies" and how we can use biotechnology of the end of the twentieth century to help us in the twenty-first. The February panel on MTBE was a shot

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*Inventors Make a Difference, continued from front page*

African American Inventors in Oakland (the Society of Black Professional Engineers/NCCBPE) and for the Santa Clara County Alliance of Black Educators.

There were a number of local speakers. The most prominent speaker was Dr. Douglas Engelbart, the local SRI International (of Menlo Park) inventor of the computer mouse. He was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame (now in Akron, Ohio) last year.

Many elementary school student attendees were asked "What did they think about when they were asked about chemists and chemistry." They created original colored posters of their impressions and thoughts. These original posters will be placed (by National Chemistry Week) inside local San Mateo public transit busses and will remain on the busses for the next 6 months.



Light refreshments were available all day for the attendees. The local Silicon Valley Intellectual Property Association (the patent lawyers) and Sawyer & Associates bought

the drinks for the Event. The leftover food and drink were taken to the Palo Alto Food Closet to be distributed to the homeless.

Intel Corporation is the largest maker of semiconductor chips in the world and introduced the Pentium III chip several months ago.

## Urgent: Call for More Volunteers

The first annual Dr. George Washington Carver Science Fair will be held on January 5th, 2000 at the Santa Clara Convention Center. This event is sponsored by the Santa Clara County Alliance of Black Educators and the Healing Institute. The SCVACS Section is participating by providing volunteer coaches, mentors, and e-mail mentors. We specifically need judges during the January 5th activities. In addition to chemists and chemical engineers, we especially need people with backgrounds in biochemistry, biotechnology, biology, botany, zoology, and the life sciences.

Please call ASAP Dr. Howard Peters, Chair, Minority Affairs Committee at 650-324-1677 ext. 20 or e-mail [peters4pa@aol.com](mailto:peters4pa@aol.com).

*APS Mass Media Fellowship, continued from front page*

nicate complex technical issues to non-specialists.

**Eligibility:** Priority will be given to graduate students in physics, or a closely related field, although applications also will be considered from outstanding undergraduates and postdoctoral researchers. Applicants should possess outstanding written and oral communication skills and a strong interest in learning about the media.

**Stipend:** Remuneration is \$4,500, plus a travel allowance of up to \$1,000.

**Term:** Following an intensive three-day orientation in early June at the AAAS in Washington DC, winning candidates will work full-time through mid-August.

**Selection Process:** During February, a review committee will screen completed applications received by the January 15 deadline. Files of the four or five most qualified applicants will be submitted, together with those of the AAAS finalists, to host media organizations for final selection in April.

**To Apply:** The following materials must be received at the address below by JANUARY 15: (1) Application forms are available from the program office (address below), or in PDF format ([http://www.aps.org/public\\_affairs/Media.html](http://www.aps.org/public_affairs/Media.html)). Print out PDF file, fill out and send to address below. (2) A copy of your resume (3) Brief sample(s) of your writing (3-5 pages on any subject, written in language understandable to the general public – no technical papers, please), on single-sided, 8 1/2" x 11" paper, unstapled (4) Three letters of recommendation (to be mailed directly to the program). Two of these letters should be from faculty members; one should be a personal reference. (5) Transcripts of your undergraduate and graduate work (to be mailed directly to the program)

**Mail to:** APS Mass Media Fellowship Program, 529 14th Street, NW, Suite 1050, Washington DC 20045

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e-mail: [sradding@att.net](mailto:sradding@att.net)

**LITERATURE SEARCHES**

## Congratulations to Dr. Pavlath

Congratulations to Dr. Attila Pavlath of the California Section on her election as the year 2001 American Chemical Society President. Coincidentally, the California Section will celebrate its 100 year anniversary in the year 2001.

Chairman's Message, continued from front page

that echoed through out the ACS. In conferences and meetings, I was always asked about "the high stake poker" and the round table face-off, when I introduce myself as the Chairman of the Santa Clara Valley Section. We also learned how plasma "the 4th state" can be deployed to enhance industrial products.

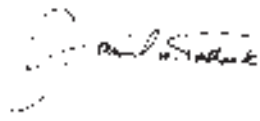
During the past year we created new committees and revived others from the brink of extinction. We created the career liaison position to assist our members in their career planning. We formed a government legislative watch group to work with the national ACS and get involved in promoting chemistry and give our legislators a clear view of our capabilities and our willingness to assist and advise them. Part of that effort was our trip to Sacramento on April 23, 1999. Your Santa Clara Valley Section provided the highest number of participant from the State, which made the "California State Capital Day" a success. Because of this success, the ACS decided to repeat this event in the coming year.

We brought back the Biotechnology and Medicinal Chemistry group and the Young Chemists Group back from extinction. Thanks for the energetic leadership that

we chose for these groups; we have very high hopes for their future success. Our National Chemistry Week and International Chemistry Celebration activities were outstanding. You will read more about the "Inventors Make a Difference Day" at Intel in another part of the Newsletter. Young elementary students from our area made some beautiful colored posters that were placed on public busses and trains. These posters received a high level of praise and acceptance. We also had programs of "Chemistry on the Soccer Field" and had an exhibit at the Tech Museum. For the first time, we had a display and an information table at the Millbrae Library. Due to the lack of space in this issue, you will read about these events and see some pictures in the January issue.

Finally, as my work ends, and as I say "Good Bye", I wish all of you the very best. I hope our paths will cross again on the road of life. When that happens, please be sure to say "Hello".

My best wishes for a very happy holiday season!



## News from American Chemical Society Younger Chemists Committee

The American Chemical Society Younger Chemists Committee was formed to identify the needs and concerns of younger chemists (and chemical engineers!) in order to develop programs responsive to their needs. The YCC is driven by three strategic goals:

1. To make the ACS relevant to younger chemists
2. Increase the involvement of younger chemists in the ACS at all levels
3. Develop mechanisms to integrate younger chemists into the profession

The Santa Clara Valley ACS Section is forming a YCC to meet the needs of students and young professionals in the South Bay. We are interested in your participation for the following: attendance at and assistance with local events of both a professional and social nature that will provide networking opportunities for career enhancement; suggestions and ideas for reaching all interested potential YCC members in our community; and availability to serve as a mentor for interested YCC members.

For more information, please contact:

Claire Komives  
[ckomives@email.sjsu.edu](mailto:ckomives@email.sjsu.edu)

## Election Results

As reported by the Nominations and Elections Committee: A total of 286 envelopes were received; 2 of these did not contain ballots, so 284 ballots were counted.

### For Chair-Elect:

Sally Peters (270 votes, elected)  
Roy Okuda (1 write-in)      Peter Rusch (1 write-in)

For Secretary: Karl Marhenke (273 votes, elected)  
Maureen Scharberg (1 write-in)

For Treasurer: Hong Gao (267 votes, elected)

### For Councilor:

Maureen Scharberg (244)      Ean Warren (189 votes)  
John Riley (174 votes)      Jamil Talhouk (165 votes)

Three were to be elected, so Maureen Scharberg, Ean Warren and Jack Riley will serve as Councilors from 2000 through 2002.

### For Alternate Councilor:

Roy Okuda (230 votes)      Donna Mena (197 votes)  
Lance Wong (187 votes)      Peter Rusch (186 votes)  
George Lechner (149 votes)      Dick Zare (1 write-in)

Five were to be elected, the three with the most votes for 3-year terms, the one with the next highest for a 2-year term and the other one for a 1-year term. Roy Okuda, Donna Mena and Lance Wong will serve as Alternate Councilors for 3 years, from 2000-2002. Peter Rusch will serve a 2-year term, from 2000-2001. George Lechner will be an Alternate Councilor for the year 2000.



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#### DECEMBER 1999 NEWSLETTER TOPICS:

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APS Mass Media Fellowship 10-Week Summer Program  
Chairman's Message  
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News from ACS Younger Chemists Committee  
Election Results

*Time Value!*

#### CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACTS



<http://www.scvacs.org>

#### SANTA CLARA VALLEY SECTION

##### 1999 SECTION OFFICERS

Chair	Jamil Talhouk	925-449-2664
Chair-Elect	<b>Ean Warren</b>	650-329-4554
Secretary	Karl Marhenke	831-479-6263
Treasurer	Hong Gao	650-494-5197
Past-Chair	Herb Silber	408-924-4954

##### Councilors

1998-00	Sally Peters	650-812-4994
1998-00	Linda Brunauer	408-554-6947
1997-99	Carol Mosher	650-322-3120
1997-99	Maureen Scharberg	408-924-4966
1999-01	Bonnie Charpentier	650-354-2344
1999-01	Herb Silber	408-924-4954

##### Alternate Councilors

1998-00	John F. Riley	650-328-2746
1998-99	Lois Durham	650-723-1610
1997-99	Peter Rusch	650-948-0237
1997-99	Jamil Talhouk	925-449-2664
1999-01	Jonathan Touster	650-723-4340
1999-01	Ean Warren	650-329-4554

##### Newsletter Editor

Steven Colby 650-938-4502

e-mail: [colby@sisweb.com](mailto:colby@sisweb.com)  
Web Site: [www.sisweb.com](http://www.sisweb.com)

##### FUTURE MEETINGS

<b>Jan 20</b>	SCV Dinner Meeting <i>Dr. Timothy Lenoir</i>
<b>Feb 17</b>	SCV Dinner Meeting <i>Dr. Sam Luoma</i>
<b>Mar 29</b>	Mosher Award Luncheon
<b>Mar 26-31</b>	National ACS Meeting
<b>May 20</b>	Art and Wine Festival and Exhibit

For the latest information, please visit the  
SCVACS Web Site: <http://www.scvacs.org>

##### CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACTS

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