



# Richland Section American Chemical Society

winter 2007

## *Secretary, Treasurer, and Chair-Elect Candidates Are Unopposed, Two Vie for Councilor*

Enclosed with this newsletter is your ballot for election of 2008 Richland Section officers. The secretary and treasurer positions are self-explanatory, and each serves a one year term. The position of Chair-Elect is really a three year position. The first year is a learning year that allows some time to see the workings of the ACS and the local section. The second year is spent as the Chair of the Section. In the third and final position, that of Past-Chair, the office holder takes on an advisory role.

The Councilor position, for which two people are running this year, is the liaison between the local section and the national ACS. The Councilor sits on national level committees and has the ability to influence ACS policy. The Councilor is elected for a three year term.

I hope you will take the time to make your choice known by sending in the enclosed ballot, either through the Hanford plant mail or the US Postal Service. As the Section uses paper ballots only, if you did not receive a ballot, please contact the Section at [acsrichlandsection@gmail.com](mailto:acsrichlandsection@gmail.com). Please return the ballot by December 17<sup>th</sup>.

*Jeff Woodford, Section Chair*



SECTION  
ELECTIONS

BALLOTS  
INSIDE

return the ballot by December 17

# pizza

# Party

*& Volunteer Appreciation*

**WHO:** All Section members & their guests

**WHAT:** End of year celebration & volunteer appreciation

**WHEN:** Friday, December 7, 6 to 8 pm

**WHERE:** Round Table Pizza, 245 Torbett, Richland

Please join the Richland Section at Round Table Pizza in Richland on the evening of December 7<sup>th</sup>, between 6 and 8 pm, to celebrate another successful year. There is no charge and you are encouraged to bring a guest(s). This will be an informal get together for all members to meet and for the Section to recognize some of the volunteers who helped organize events this past year.

## GIRLS IN SCIENCE

### *Sixth Girls in Science event held at Eastern Oregon University*



"What is making people sick?" was the challenging question to solve for middle-school girls who attended the sixth "Girls in Science" day at Eastern Oregon University in La Grande, OR on Saturday October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2007. The event was organized by over 70 volunteers, including EOU faculty, staff and students and

members of other organizations. The event was supported in part by the Richland Section Committee for Women and Minority Affairs with a donation of \$500 and with participation from ACS students and faculty members. Girls as far as the Tri-Cities and many small communities in North and Central Oregon attended the science day.



Crafted after the popular TV show "House", the interdisciplinary curriculum developed by a team composed of anthropology, computer technology, biology and chemistry experts engaged the girls in finding out what was making inhabitants of a house sick. Working in small teams, the young investigators,

equipped with masks and booties, first collected specimens from a fictitious house, and then conducted several experiments to find out possible presence of bacteria or molds or presence of toxic chemicals such as nitrite in water or lead in paint. Math activities and graphing along with computer simulations were also part of the day.

The day concluded with each team reporting their diagnosis to "Dr. House". The event was met with great enthusiasm by all participants and was overall a great success. More pictures will be shortly available on the Richland section website.



## CHEMISTRY MERIT BADGE



*A scout investigates the chemistry of cooking during the Chemistry Merit Badge training.*

Another activity sponsored by the Richland Section this fall was a program to help scouts earn the Chemistry Merit Badge. By completing two Saturday mornings of training, the scouts could complete all the requirements for the merit badge. This is the sixth year that the training has been held. This year 15 boy scouts and 11 girl scouts completed the training.

## ▼ CANDIDATE BIOS ►

### **SECRETARY** *Asanga B. Padmaperuma*



Asanga Padmaperuma has a Ph.D. from the University of Southern California which focused on the study of organic light emitting polymers. He has conducted research on the synthesis of organic small molecules, polymers and other metal complexes for the use as organic electroluminescent devices. He also has hands on experience in working with: novel emissive materials based on organic and organo-lanthanide compounds, structure-property relationship of polymers and small molecules, the effect of ligands

on the energy of lanthanide complexes, improving energy transfer from polymers to lanthanides, and experience in combining theoretical simulations and experimental data to predict and evaluate molecular properties of organic molecules.

Asanga joined the Battelle Memorial Institute at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) as a post doctoral intern with Dr. Linda S. Sapochak and Dr. Paul E. Burrows in 2004, and progressed to a to senior research scientist in 2006. At PNNL his major projects include the development of high energy conducting hosts for the use in white organic light emitting devices. His contributions are in syntheses, purification and testing of such materials in OLEDs. He also contributes in identification and preparation of efficient liquid scintillator blends of organic materials for radiation detection.

### **TREASURER** *Dennis Wester*



Dennis Wester is currently a staff scientist at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in the Radiochemical Processing Group. Dennis received his Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry from the University of Florida and spent two years as a post-doc at The Ohio State University. He has served at various times and in various capacities on the boards of the Chicago, St. Louis and Richland Sections of the ACS and has most recently been the ACS representative to the Tri-Cities

Technical Council for several years. His work at PNNL has taken him to many countries around the world (Russia, Philippines, Australia, etc.) so he is looking forward to a few years at home. He has held the post of Section treasurer for several years.

## COUNCILOR *Richard Hermens*



The position of Councilor of the Richland Section is scheduled for election in 2007. I am placing my name on the ballot for another term as councilor. This year, I was placed on the national ACS committee of Project Seed. This is a very important committee as members of the committee approve proposals from institutions to host high school students for summer research. The Richland Section had Project SEED students at two locations. Last year, I wrote a proposal to the Local

Section Activities Committee for \$3,000 to fund community college students to attend the NORM in Boise. It was funded. In addition, I solicited funds from Washington State University, University of Idaho and Eastern Oregon University. An additional \$4,500 was obtained from these sources. This will help fund community college students to attend regional meetings in the future.

*Education:* B.S. Pacific University, 1957; M.S. Oregon State University, 1960; Ph.D. University of Idaho, 1963.

*Teaching and work experience:* University of Idaho, 1 year; Millikin University, 3 years; Eastern Oregon University, 35 years; Emeritus Professor of Chemistry, Chairman of the Board of MicroLab Inc.

*Positions held:* Councilor of the Richland Section 1997-date; Chairman of the Richland Section, 1983; General Chair of Richland sponsored NORM, 1991. I was appointed to the following ACS national committees: Local Section Activities Committee; Senior Chemists Task Force; Nomenclature, Symbols and Terminology Committee; Project SEED.

*Awards:*

2003, U. Idaho, Silver and Gold award for Distinguished Alumni  
2000, American Chemical Council (formally the Chemical Manufacturer's Association) Outstanding Teacher Award  
1988, Eastern Oregon University's Distinguished Teaching Faculty Award  
And eight times he was awarded the Meritorious Professor Award  
1986, Outstanding Chemist Award from the Richland Section

*Publications and presentations:*

Patent on the Recovery of Uranium from Solutions,  
17 publications and 49 presentations.

## CHAIR-ELECT *Jonathan L. Male*



Jonathan L. Male received his B. Sc. in chemistry from Greenwich University, England and did his Ph. D. in organometallic chemistry at Simon Fraser University, Canada. Jonathan subsequently held two postdoctoral positions; one at the University of California, Berkeley as a postdoctoral fellow in both the chemistry and chemical engineering departments. This work focused on metal oxides derived from molecular precursors as catalysts for the oxidative dehydrogenation of propane. The previous postdoctoral position was at the University of Oregon, Eugene which concentrated on the influence of solvent cage kinetics on photochemically generated radical fragments.

In 2000 Jonathan joined the GE Global Research Center, Niskayuna where he developed several new inorganic homogeneous and heterogeneous catalysts for GE Advanced Materials as a member of the catalysis laboratory. In 2002 he moved to the combinatorial chemistry laboratory and successfully applied high-throughput experimentation approaches to homogenous catalysis, sensors, and emission reduction catalysts. In 2006 Jonathan joined the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory where he is currently actively engaged in materials discovery, development of catalysts for the selective catalytic reduction of  $\text{NO}_x$  and organic light emitting diodes.

## COUNCILOR *Tim Hubler*



You can be very proud of the accomplishments of the Richland Section and its role within the ACS. The Section has been one of the consistently active local sections in terms of its support for public outreach, educational activities for students, and continuing education for members with forums for presenting research such as the Northwest Regional Meeting (NORM).

I am running for the position of Councilor, and would very much appreciate your support in this election. The Councilor represents the local section within the Society and serves the local section and the ACS in a broader fashion through participation in committees of the Society; the committees significantly influence the goals and actions of the Society; they are where most initiatives for Council consideration originate and are developed. I have served the Richland Section in many different capacities, and I can bring a new perspective to the Councilor position for the Richland Section (which my opponent has held for the past 12 years). I have the experience to be effective in this capacity as I have already chaired an ad hoc committee at the request of the Meetings and Exposition Committee (known as M&E; the committee I chaired was ReACT, or Regional Activities Coordination Team). I also have served on a divisional executive committee (Division of Inorganic Chemistry), and have been President of the Northwest Region of the ACS, which oversees planning for Northwest Regional Meetings. I am just wrapping up my duties as General Chair of NORM 2007, a very successful meeting held in Boise, Idaho and co-located with the Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

What would I do as Councilor? For starters, I want to establish an effective and ongoing forum for local section members to voice their opinions about various issues affecting their Society, probably making this a biannual event for members. A forum for the Councilor to also inform members of the various initiatives/activities underway is critical for members to understand the benefits that their Society provides to them. I believe the local section needs to devote more attention to this type of activity for our members than we have in the past. Members generally do not care much about the governance of the Society, but when they need to look for a job, they might wonder what the Society is doing to improve connectivity between potential employers/employees and how they can take full advantage of that benefit. They might wonder what the Society is doing to provide for quick, efficient, reliable, and accessible reports of research that fully utilize the capabilities of our modern "electronic" world. Such concerns (and these are a few of mine) can be addressed through effective Councilor representation which I believe I can provide for members.

Regardless of your issues or outlook, and the candidates you choose to support in this election, you should know that your local section officers work very hard for you. They may not always be aware of your immediate needs but they are easy to contact and will do their best to address your concerns as quickly as possible. I look forward to the opportunity to further serve the Richland Section and would appreciate your vote for me for the position of Councilor. Thank you!

*Career:* Senior Research Scientist, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (1995-present); Chemistry Instructor, Columbia Basin College (1998-2005). *Education:* B.S., Chemistry, College of Idaho, 1984; M.S., Inorganic Chemistry, University of Idaho (1988); Ph.D., Inorganic Chemistry, University of Idaho (1992); Postdoctoral Fellow, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (1992-1995). *ACS Service:* Member for 23 years. Treasurer, Richland Section, (1994); Chair, Richland Section (1996); Alternate Councilor, Richland Section (1997-2006); Membership Chair, Division of Inorganic Chemistry (1995-2001); Program Chair, NORM 1998; NOR Board Director (1998 to present); NOR Board Executive Secretary (2001); President, NOR Board (2002-2008); Member, Study Group on Regional Meetings (2003-2004); Chair, ReACT (Region Activities Coordination Team, 2005-2006); General Chair, NORM 2007.

## HAIL AND FAREWELL

The Richland Section would like to greet the following new members: **George Miller, Seema Sharma, and Manning Widener**. We look forward to seeing you at a future section activity. We wish departing members **Jubal Scharold, Xianqin Wang, Collin Wick, and Ann Autrey** the best of luck in their future endeavors.

In the last newsletter, Hail and Farewell reported that former section chair **William Samuels** would be leaving the area. This is not true. Bill's mailing address changed, but he is staying in the Tri-Cities. The editor regrets the error.

## COMING EVENTS

- DECEMBER 7 2008 **MEMBER APPRECIATION SOCIAL**, Round Table Pizza, 6PM, Richland
- FEBRUARY 11 **C. ALTON HASSELL**, Baylor University, *Using Nuclear Chemistry to Study Antique Watermarks*
- MAY 5 **JEFFERY I. ZINK**, UCLA, *Functional Molecular Machines on Nanostructured Materials*
- OCTOBER 15 **FRANKIE K. WOOD-BLACK**, ConocoPhillips, *Just where does gasoline come from? And what is octane?*
- NOVEMBER 12 **RALPH O. ALLEN**, U. of Virginia, *Forensic Science: Developing Analytical Techniques for Terrorism and the Courtroom*

## ACS MEMBER BENEFIT

### Hotel Discounts for ACS Members!

ACS members are guaranteed an additional 10% discount off the best available rate at over 6,500 Wyndham Hotel Group properties around the globe. To make reservations and receive the discount, use the following numbers and give the agent your ACS discount ID number **62871** at the time of booking.

AmeriHost Inn®	1-800-996-2087
Baymont Inns	1-800-980-1679
Days Inn®	1-800-268-2195
Howard Johnson®	1-800-769-0939
Knights Inn®	1-800-682-1071
Ramada®	1-800-462-8035
Super 8®	1-800-889-9706
Travelodge®	1-800-545-5545
Wingate®	1-877-202-8814
Wyndham Hotels	1-866-854-1604

Richland Section  
Home Page

[www.pnl.gov/acs/](http://www.pnl.gov/acs/)



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### Point to Ponder

We should remember that one man is much the same as another, and that he is best who is trained in the severest school.  
Thucydides – *History of the Peloponnesian War*