



July 2011

THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL SECTION OF THE SOCIETY FOR APPLIED SPECTROSCOPY

By Steve Ray, Indiana University

The inaugural meeting of the United Kingdom regional section of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy was held on May 17, 2011, in the Manchester Interdisciplinary Biocentre on the campus of the University of Manchester in the United Kingdom. The formation of a new SAS local section is always a welcome event, as it signals expansion of the SAS membership and an increasing scientific influence. However, the creation of this regional section is especially noteworthy because the UK SAS section is the first to be located outside the North American continent. Thus, it marks an important step in the evolution of the SAS into a truly international scientific organization by launching the first of what will be many international regional sections.

The importance of the event was illustrated by the enthusiastic participation of a large number of presenters, audience members, and delegates. The opening inaugural speech was given by current SAS President Curt Marcott to an audience of over 110 delegates. The first executive chair of the UK SAS section, Pavel Matousek (Rutherford Appleton Laboratory), then introduced the executive committee, which consists of Chair-Elect Caroline Rodger (AstraZeneca), Treasurer John Chalmers (VS Consulting), and Secretary Andy Brookes (AstraZeneca).

The newly formed UK SAS section hosted a full day of scientific presentations on the topic of "Spectroscopy in Biomedical Analysis." SAS tour speaker Professor Max Diem (Northeastern University) discussed infrared and Raman micro-spectroscopy for medical diagnosis and imaging, Professor Peter Gardner (Manchester University) presented work on infrared analysis at the single cell level, and SAS President Curtis Marcott (Light Light Solutions) discussed nanoscale chemical composition mapping at 100 nm spatial resolution with AFM-based infrared spectroscopy. SAS tour speaker Professor Richard Dluhy (University of Georgia, USA) demonstrated novel nanorod-array substrates for SERS-based biosensing of infectious disease, and Professor Duncan Graham (Strathclyde University, UK) discussed the use of functionalized nanoparticles and surfaces for bioanalysis by SERS. Finally, Professor Roy Goodacre (Manchester University, UK) discussed using Raman spectroscopy for quantitative bioanalysis, and Professor Nicholas Stone (Gloucestershire Royal Hospital, UK) considered the impact and role of Raman Spectroscopy in clinical diagnostics. These luminaries both demonstrated the cutting-edge spectroscopy which is the hallmark of the SAS and provided an overview of the biomedical potential of IR and Raman spectroscopies.

It is also noteworthy that the historical importance placed on student participation by the SAS is also in evidence within its first international section. Free student registration permitted a large number of students to attend the event, introducing this next generation of spectroscopists to the society. This was made possible by the generous support of a large number of sponsors including Agilent Technologies, Analyst (RSC Publishing), Cobalt Light Systems, Ltd., HORIBA Scientific, John Wiley & Sons, Ltd., Perkin Elmer, Thermo Fisher Scientific, and the University of Manchester MIB.



Speakers: From the left **Richard Dluhy** (University of Georgia, USA), **Max Diem** (Northeastern University, USA), **Peter Gardner** (Manchester University, UK), **Duncan Graham** (Strathclyde University, UK), **Nicholas Stone** (Gloucestershire Royal Hospital, UK), **Curtis Marcott** (President of SAS; Light Light Solutions, USA)



President of SAS, Curtis Marcott, giving inaugural lecture



Audience



Exhibition Area

REMINDER - July 15 Application Deadline Approaching for Applied Spectroscopy Journal Editor Position

Applied Spectroscopy journal Editor-in-Chief, Peter R. Griffiths, has communicated his intent to step down as journal editor in June 2012. The Publications and Executive Committees of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy are now seeking qualified applicants for the position of Editor-in-Chief of *Applied Spectroscopy*. The new editor will take over editorial operations in July 2012, being responsible for the content of the journal starting with the September 2012 issue. In addition to being a top scientist in the field of spectroscopy, the individual must be a member in good standing of the Society and must have served at least two years in one of the following capacities or one year each in two of the following capacities: delegate to the Governing Board; regional/technical section officer; journal editorial board member, and/or chair of a Society committee.

The position is a 3-year term. The Editor-in-Chief is responsible for the regular monthly publication of *Applied Spectroscopy* and serves as a non-voting member of the Society Executive Committee.

If you would like to submit a name for consideration, please email it with supporting documentation to: Dr. Bruce Chase, Chair of the SAS Publications Committee, at exdir@s-a-s.org, or mail it to him c/o The Society for Applied Spectroscopy, 5320 Spectrum Drive, Suite C, Frederick, MD 21703. The deadline for receipt of applications or nominations is July 15, 2011.

July Historical Events in Spectroscopy by Leopold May, Catholic University

July 1, 1901

The Office of Standard Weights and Measures became the National Bureau of Standards on this day. It was renamed the National Institute of Standards and Technology in 1988.

July 10, 1843

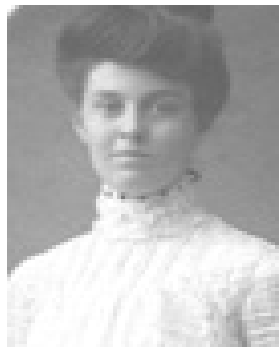
William de W. Abney, who was born on this date, was a researcher in photographic chemistry, color photography, and printing.

July 11, 1916



Aleksandr Mikhailovich Prokhorov was born on this date. He shared the 1964 Nobel Prize in Physics with Alexander Nikolay G. Basov and Charles H. Townes for fundamental work in the field of quantum electronics, which has led to the construction of oscillators and amplifiers based on the maser laser principle.

July 23, 1880



Emma P. Carr, who was a researcher on ultraviolet spectra of hydrocarbons, was born on this date. She was the first recipient of the American Chemical Society's Francis Garvan Medal in 1937.

July 24, 1862



William H. Bragg, who was born on this date, shared the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1915 with his son, W. Lawrence Bragg, for their work in the analysis of crystal structure by means of X-rays.

More historical events are available at Dr. May's website, <http://faculty.cua.edu/may/SpectHist.htm>

Comments to david.butcherATanalytchem.org