The SAS Spectrum Newsletter
The Newsletter of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy

August 2012

Call for nominations for the Willams-Wright Award and the Coblentz and William G. Fateley Student Awards

About the Williams-Wright Award: This award is presented annually at the Pittsburgh Conference on Analytical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy (PITTCON) to an industrial spectroscopist who has made significant contributions to vibrational spectroscopy while working in industry. The work may include infrared and/or Raman spectroscopy, instrumental development as well as theory, and applications of vibrational spectroscopy.

No restrictions are placed on the selection of the Awardee because of age, sex, or nationality, but the Awardee must still be working at the time the award is presented. Government labs are not considered industry in this definition. The Williams-Wright Award consists of a frame certificate and an honorarium and is presented each year in a special award session, the Williams-Wright Award Symposium, held in honor of the awardee.

About The Coblentz and William G. Fateley Student Awards: The Coblentz Society seeks nominations of outstanding students for the Coblentz Student Awards. Awardees receive a copy of the Society's Desk Book, a certificate, and a year's membership in the Society. Their names and the names of their faculty advisors appear in the Society's Newsletter. All awardees who attend FACSS will receive their award in person from the Coblentz Society's president at a presentation during Sunday Evening's SAS Student Poster session. All nominees for the Coblentz Student Award will automatically be considered for the William G. Fateley Student Award. The William G. Fateley award recipient will be given the opportunity to speak in the Student Awards session at FACSS or in another appropriate venue, and will receive a $1000 prize supported by an endowment established in Professor Fateley's name by his former students, friends and colleagues.

Information regarding eligibility and nomination requirements, and nominations procedures can be found at http://www.coblentz.org/awards. Nominations for the Williams-Wright Award must be submitted by **May 1, 2013**. Nominations for the Coblentz and William G. Fateley Student Awards must be submitted by **Feb. 1, 2013**.

Call for Nominations for the Craver Award

About the Craver Award. The Craver Award is presented annually to recognize young spectroscopists for efforts in applied analytical vibrational spectroscopy. Nominations for the Craver Award are being accepted through August 30, 2012. Candidates must be under the age of 45 on January 1 of the year of the award. The candidate's work may include any aspect of infrared (NIR, MIR, or Far), and/or THz, and/or Raman spectroscopy in applied analytical vibrational spectroscopy. The nominees may come from an academic, government lab, or industrial backgrounds. Nominations for the 2013 Craver Award must include a detailed description of the nominee's accomplishments, a curriculum vitae or resume, and minimum of three supporting letters. Nominations close on August 30, 2012. Files of candidates will be kept active for 3 years or until the age of eligibility is exceeded. Annual updates of candidate files are encouraged and will be solicited from the nomination source by the award's committee chair.

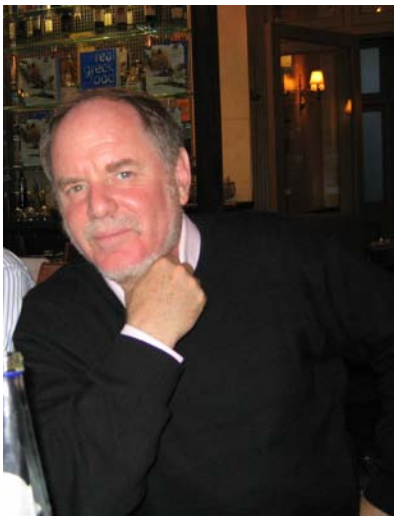
Please consult http://www.coblentz.org/awards for further information on eligibility, requirements, and points of contact for this and the Coblentz Society's other awards.

Call for Nominations for the Ellis R. Lippincott Award

About the Lippincott Award. The purpose of the Ellis R. Lippincott Award is to honor Dr. Lippincott's memory by the recognition of significant contributions and notable achievements in the field of vibrational spectroscopy. The medal is sponsored jointly by the Coblentz Society, the Optical Society of America and the Society for Applied Spectroscopy. It is awarded annually at an appropriate scientific meeting. The award consists of the medal and travel allowances to the meeting. The Awardee will present an address related to the contributions for which he or she is being honored. In addition, there may be a symposium of talks by invited speakers. Recipients of the medal must have made significant contributions to vibrational spectroscopy as judged by their influence on other scientists. Because innovation was a hallmark of the work of Ellis R. Lippincott, this quality in the contributions of candidates will be carefully appraised. The contributions may be theoretical, experimental or both, and may have been made in the course of applied as well as basic research. No restriction is placed on the citizenship or national origin of candidates. A candidate need not be a member of any of the sponsoring societies. The award will not be made posthumously unless an Awardee should die after the selection procedure has been completed. Nominations should contain the name and affiliation of the nominee and sufficient background information to justify the nomination. A nominator is expected to believe sufficiently strongly in the quality of the work of his or her candidate to provide evidence of that belief. No restriction is placed on who may nominate, and all nominations received by the committee prior to October 1st, 2012 in any year will be considered for the award to be presented in the fall of the following year. Files of nominees will be kept active for three years, after which the nominee must be renominated with an updated file or the file will be closed. Nominations for the Ellis R. Lippincott Award are accepted from January 1st through October 1st, 2012.

Please consult http://www.coblentz.org/awards for further information on eligibility, requirements, and points of contact for this and the Coblentz Society's other awards.

2012 Gold Medal Award Winner:
Dr. Richard Mendelson, Rutgers University



Dr. Mendelsohn, currently a Professor II in the Department of Chemistry at Rutgers University, has been recognized by peers as a leader and expert in vibrational spectroscopy of lipids, monolayer reflection-absorption IR spectroscopy, and infrared imaging of biological applications. Mendelsohn received his Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1972 under the direction of Professor Richard C. Lord. His graduate research was on laser-excited Raman spectroscopy and its application for protein structure studies. Following graduation, he worked as a Research Fellow in the King's College in London with Dr. Maurice Wilkins (M.H.F. Wilkins), a famous Nobel Laureate, to study biological membrane structure. From 1973-1976, he joined the National Research Council of Canada as a Research Associate, and worked with Dr. H.J. Bernstein in resonance Raman spectroscopy. Mendelsohn became an Assistant Professor of Chemistry at Rutgers University in 1976, rising through the ranks to Professor in 1985.

Through his 40 years of career, Mendelsohn developed and focused his interest in the application of vibrational spectroscopy to problems in biophysics and medicine. One of his significant achievements is the advancement of infrared internal reflection absorption spectroscopy, which provided an effective physical technique with sufficient sensitivity to acquire molecular structure information of monolayers in situ at the air/water interface. This technique impacted many areas in membrane biophysics, from interfacial catalysis to protein insertion in membranes, to models for pulmonary surfactant action at the air-alveolar interface.

Mendelsohn's significant achievements also include his efforts in applying infrared microscopic imaging to biomineralizing tissue and skin for the study of wound healing, skin permeation and collagen hydration. His group examined an extensive series of model Calcium Phosphate phases to establish spectra-structure correlations. With collaborators, he has compiled a large corpus of studies dealing with critical osteonal bone properties, in particular, infrared analyses of bone comprising the areas of health and disease.

As apprized by peers, "Rich's vibrational spectroscopic contributions alone comprise a body of innovative studies that have deservedly earned his recognition in multiple venues as an extremely productive scientist." His research has resulted more than 200 published papers, and more than 30 book chapters, review articles and book reviews. He has also made more than 170 lectures and research presentations at national and international meetings, universities, and industries.

Mendelsohn has also been called as an enthusiastic mentor by his students and collaborators, and claimed that his enthusiasm for spectroscopy is "infectious". Through his tenure at Rutgers, 27 PhD and 13 MS students, and 19 postdoctoral associates and visitors have been mentored by Rich with his passion and enthusiasm for spectroscopy.

The Gold Medal Award was established in 1952 to recognize scientists who make outstanding contributions to the field of Applied Spectroscopy. Dr. Mendelsohn will join the other sixty one spectroscopists who have received this prestigious award (see the entire list of the recipients at *http://www.nysas.org/index.php?p=1_23*). The award will be presented to Mendelsohn at a special award symposium at the Eastern Analytical Symposium in Summerset, NJ in November.

SAS Ohio Valley Section Tour Speaker

by Dr. Jamie Gengler & Dr. Waruna Kulatilaka

The Ohio Valley Section was proud to participate once again in the SAS tour speaker program. This year our speaker was Dr. Alexander Scheeline from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Our local SAS section was able to coordinate the seminar with the chemistry department at Wright State University in Dayton, OH. Dr. Scheeline visited on May 11th, 2012. In addition to the seminar, several other activities were planned for our speaker. In the morning, Dr. Scheeline was given tours at Air Force Research Labs located in Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH. After lunch, we briefly visited the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force (located adjacent to the base). Prior to the seminar, we met with a few colleagues that Dr. Scheeline knew at Wright State University (Dr. Suzanne Lunsford, Dr. Roger Gilpin, and Mrs. Christina Gilpin). Afterwards, we had a group dinner at Olive Garden Restaurant. It should also be noted that this seminar was the last one in Dr. Scheeline's career as he is set to retire at the end of May, 2012.

Dr. Scheeline presenting at the Ohio Valley Section.

Comments to david.butcherATanalytchem.org