

SAS SPECTRUM eNEWS

Pittcon 2015 Report

The Society had six events at Pittcon 2015 spanning the entire week of March 9-12, 2015. On Sunday, March 8, "SAS 2020 Vision" was held as an open meeting for all members. On Monday, March 9, "Women in Spectroscopy" was an extremely popular event. On Tuesday, March 10, the "International Year of Light" session was held in the morning, and the Student Event was held in the evening. Wednesday morning, the "60-Year Celebration of the Coblenz Society" was held. Thursday, March 12, "Atomic Spectroscopy: Going Strong in the 21st Century" was the last event in the series.



SAS 2020 Vision

On Sunday, 8 March 2015, approximately 20 members participated in a round table and broke into small groups to discuss innovative ventures for the Society and its 2020 mandate to ensure its continued success. All members are invited to contribute to this discussion using their favorite means, whether it is by directly speaking to Diane Parry, or by e-mail, Twitter, Facebook, or LinkedIn. The kickoff meeting was well attended, filling the room with active discussions from morning into mid-afternoon. Some of the questions and observations voiced during this strategy session were:

How big should SAS become?

Today's membership, at around 2000 worldwide members, feels like a true family. Our goal is to maintain the Society as a close-knit home for those who practice spectroscopy. #mySASfamily

What should the scientific scope of SAS include?

(There have been a few new developments since SAS was formed in 1954!)

The Society for Applied Spectroscopy welcomes everyone who is a spectroscopist, or would like to know more about spectroscopy. A spectroscopist is anyone who seeks to understand or control the properties of matter at the atomic or molecular level by means of its interaction with, or emission of, light of different wavelengths.

Where Should SAS encourage membership?

SAS embraces global membership and collaboration. We want all members, no matter where they live, to enjoy as many of the SAS member benefits as possible. A key component of our SAS 2020 global strategy is to enhance the member experience of everyone, through the formal creation of new SAS Regional, Technical, and Student Sections. Another dimension of this strategy is to foster affiliations with new or existing, like-minded organizations.

SAS is the Society for Applied Spectroscopy. What should we seek to accomplish?

Are the original objectives right for 2020, too?

Our current mission statement continues to embody our objectives: The Society for Applied Spectroscopy is a nonprofit organization formed to advance and disseminate knowledge and information concerning the art and science of spectroscopy, and other allied sciences, to advance the professional standing and growth of the Society and its members, to coordinate cooperative endeavors of its individual members and sections, and to promote and maintain a close bond among its members.

Many new ideas were proposed during this strategy session. Please share your thoughts and ideas on the direction of SAS in our active discussion. The official email address is SASfor2020@gmail.com. Watch for announcements on another open meeting at SciX this fall in Rhode Island!

Women in Spectroscopy

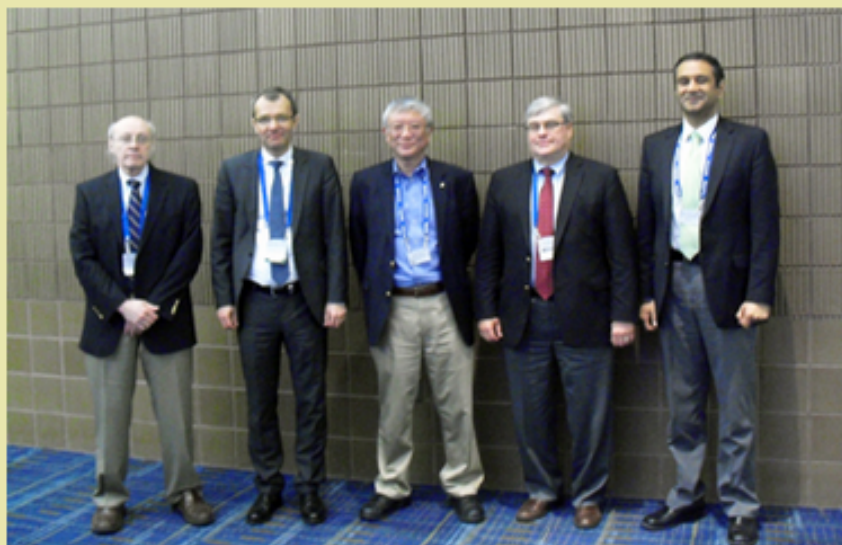
This, the fourth session in the Women in Spectroscopy series, was a spectacular success with a packed room and active discussions after each talk. The talks profiled each speaker's career paths showing the surprising intertwining of spectroscopy with various areas within science, and highlighting the unique skills, choices and challenges that contributed to each speaker's success.



Pictured (left to right): Ellen Misco (presiding); Jeanette Grasselli Brown, Jennifer Cossham, Kathryn Schade Kalasinsky, Fran Adar, Diane Grob Schmidt, Gloria Story (presiding), and Mary Kate Donais. In the front row, Sherry Lynn Hemmingsen and Anna Donnell.

International Year of Light

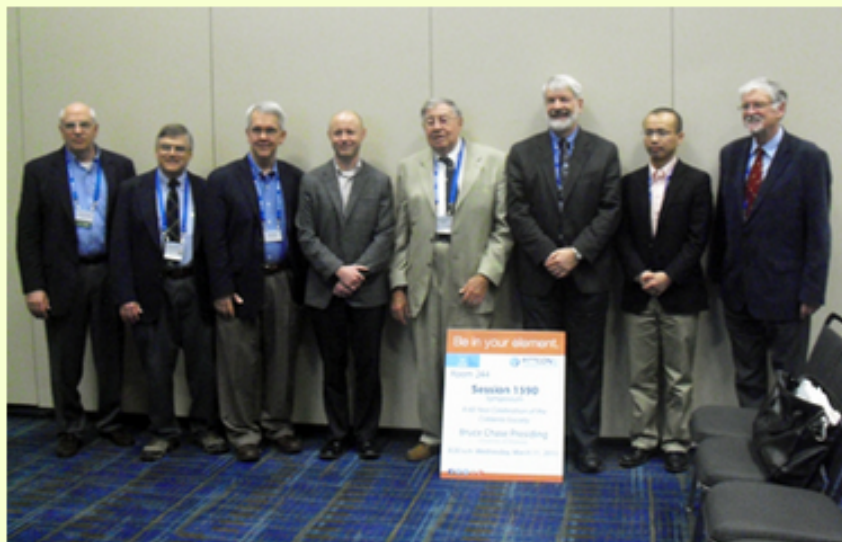
The session showcased advances in vibrational spectroscopy and how these advances solved fundamental and applied problems in the analytical sciences. Technologies like mid-infrared quantum cascade lasers, imaging in the near- and far-field, plasmonic structures, and advanced data analysis strategies provide insight into the structure and energetics of molecules and molecular structures.



Pictured (from left to right): Richard van Duyne, Bernhard Lendl, Isao Noda, Curt Marcott, Rohit Bhargava

Vibrational Spectroscopy: A 60-Year Celebration of the Coblentz Society

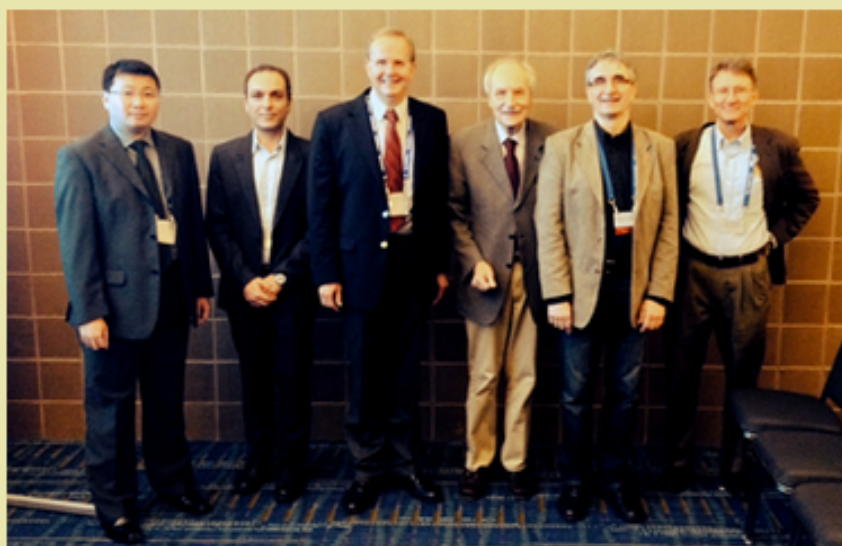
Organized by Bruce Chase and Peter Griffiths, this session highlighted high profile, quality research by vibrational spectroscopists by presenting the work of winners of the Coblentz Award for the past four decades. Topics range from interfacial chemistry, single-molecule spectroelectrochemistry, multidimensional spectroscopy, and single-molecule fluorescence.



Pictured (from left to right): Bruce Chase, Joel Harris, Paul Bohn, Marty Zanni, Bob Hannah, Jim Rydzak, Peng Chen, Peter Griffiths

Atomic Spectroscopy: Going Strong in the 21st Century

The Thursday session highlighted Atomic Spectroscopy and speakers who contributed to the current state-of-the-art from detection limits to reliable measurements on other planets. Speakers Roger Wiens, Klaus Wendt, Paul Farnsworth, Alessandro de Giacomo, and George Chan celebrated the current and future direction of atomic spectroscopy.



Pictured (from left to right): George Chan, Alessandro De Giacomo, Paul Farnsworth, Nico Omenetto, Klaus Wendt and Roger Wiens.

Award Nominations

Award nominations are being accepted until April 30 for the Barbara Stull Graduate Student Award, the Undergraduate Award in Applied Spectroscopy and the William J. Poehlman Award. Details are available in the March Newsletter and on the SAS website. Send nomination materials to exdir@s-a-s.org.