SAS SPECTRUM eNEWS

SAS Purdue Chapter Wins Award for Best Collaborative Event in 2018 at Purdue

Society of Applied Spectroscopy–Purdue Chapter won the 2018 co-sponsorship award for the Science Talks series at Purdue University. The award, given by Purdue University, recognizes most successful collaborative event on campus. For Science Talks, the Purdue chapter of SAS invited six keynote speakers who focus on spectroscopy, light, STEM education, and the blending of art and science. We collaborated with more than 12 different student organizations and Purdue units. The series was a huge success and considering this was the first year of the chapter on campus, the event and chapter hopes to grow bigger and better in coming years.

Contributed by Prasoon Diwakar
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Nominations Open for 2019 Gordon F. Kirkbright Bursary Award

The Gordon F. Kirkbright bursary award is a prestigious annual award that assists a promising early career scientist of any nation to attend a recognized scientific meeting or visit a place of learning. (We define early career as being either a student, or an employee in a non-tenured academic post or in industry, within seven years of the award of his or her PhD, excluding career breaks).

The fund for this bursary was established in 1985 as a memorial to Professor Gordon Kirkbright in recognition of his contributions to analytical spectroscopy and to science in general. Although the fund is administered by the Association of British Spectroscopists (ABS) Trust, the award is not restricted to spectroscopists, but is open to all involved with or utilising analytical science-based techniques.

Applications are invited for the 2019 Gordon Kirkbright Bursary. The closing date for entries is 30 November 2018. Application forms can be downloaded from: http://www.abstrust.org/kirkirkbright-bursary-award-application-form or for further information visit: http://www.abstrust.org/, or contact abstrustuk@gmail.com.

New York SAS Section Special Final Annual Meeting

The New York section of SAS is pleased to announce our special final annual meeting of the year, tentatively scheduled on or about July 14, 2018. At that time we will confer our annual awards to those outstanding graduate students who have been selected through a competitive award process. The winners will receive an award plaque, a small monetary stipend and a free one-year membership in the Society for Applied Spectroscopy (SAS). At that time we will also induct and celebrate the new officers for the 2018–2019 term.

Details of the meeting are not yet available, but will be found at http://www.nysas.org/ when they become available. All are welcome to attend, congratulate the winners and enjoy a fine dining experience.

Contributed by Howard Mark
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Fifteenth Confocal Raman Imaging Symposium

The 15th Confocal Raman Imaging Symposium will be held from September 24–26, 2018, in Ulm, Germany.

This annual international conference for chemical characterization and imaging is a well-established forum in the Raman community for sharing recent developments in Raman imaging.

In its fifteenth year, the symposium will feature renowned speakers from various disciplines in industry and academia, insights into the latest Raman techniques and instrumentation, and the opportunity to present research results to the Raman community at the contributed talk and poster sessions.

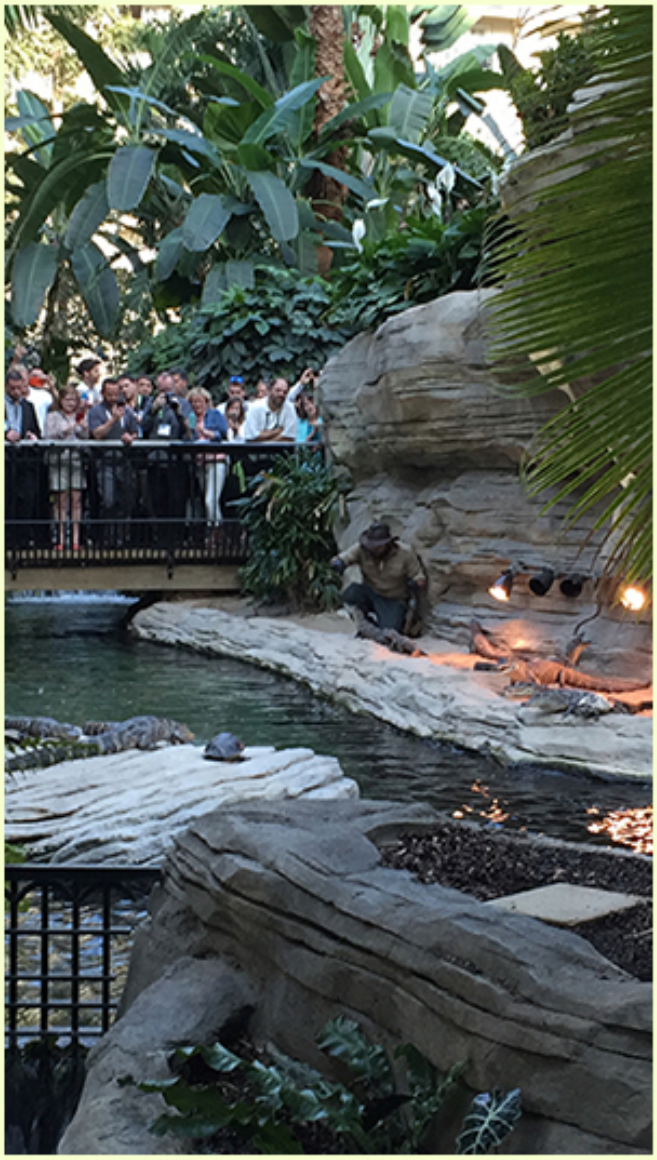
For more information and registration details: https://www.raman-symposium.com/

Next-Generation Spectroscopic Technologies at 2018 SPIE DCS

There is an old adage that if you blink, you'll miss everything. From that standpoint, I must have blinked twice, as it's hard to believe that SPIE Defense and Commercial Sensing (DCS) is nearly a month over now, having been in Orlando, Florida, during the week of April 15–19, 2018 at the Gaylord Palms Resort. The previous SAS Newsletter deadline was too soon after SPIE DCS to comment about the different papers presented, however the Next-Generation Spectroscopic Technology chairs wanted to give a brief overview of what was presented at this conference, and entreat our fellow SAS members to consider submitting an abstract for the Baltimore, Maryland, 2019 meeting. The call for papers for 2019 will be coming out in the next few weeks—keep an eye out for it!

Dolphins greeting SPIE attendees at the 2018 Orlando, Florida, meeting. Orlando is one of three cities SPIE DCS is rotating between.

Mark Druy, Richard Crocombe, Steven Barnett, and I assembled, along with help from Abul Azad on terahertz applications, a two and a half day conference with a wide variety of topical areas with spectroscopy as the main focus. Monday morning focused on spectroscopic techniques relating to smart phones. Several talks had concentrated efforts on using the pre-existing electronics and optics of an average smartphone for more advanced spectroscopic detection applications, including that of food quality and agricultural. Distinguished SAS member Alexander Scheeline concluded the session with some good warnings regarding how the public more and more is demanding a "spectroscopist in a box" and to be cognizant of the responsibilities that entail as an instrumentation manufacturer. Monday afternoon kick-off was brief, with three excellent talks on laser sources, including some novel optical parametric oscillator (OPO) developments. The remainder of Monday afternoon was devoted to new detector technologies, including pushing the envelope on microelectrochemical system (MEMS) devices.



Contrary to popular belief, SPIE no-show authors are not fed to the alligators. No SPIE attendees were harmed in the feeding of the young alligators at the Gaylord Palms Resort.

Tuesday morning and the first half of the afternoon was devoted to two favorite SAS topic areas: Raman spectroscopy and novel imaging instruments. All of these talks represented the wide and vast field of applications, but the majority focused on the detection of threat chemicals of interest to military and law enforcement. Stand-off, or the detection using remote-operational instrumentation, was a driving theme for the instruments and is a common theme for those of spectroscopists working in the defense industry. The remainder of Tuesday and the morning of Wednesday were assigned to Terahertz applications, which represented about one third of the papers in the conference overall. The majority of these talks focused on new materials (such as artificial dielectrics) and new instrumentation development. As someone who focuses mainly in the mid-infrared and near-infrared domains, presentations on these spectroscopy areas that focus on torsional and lattice vibrational modes is always intriguing.

In summary, the eleventh year of the Next-Generation Spectroscopic Technologies conference was a pleasant and educational experience. As an SAS member, I believe the Next-Generation Spectroscopic Technologies Conference would greatly benefit from the infusion of more SAS member contributions (many thanks to those SAS members who have contributed and continue to contribute!) to make this conference even better, as well as to help draw new interest into SciX technical sections as well. On behalf of all of the chairs of the Next-Generation Spectroscopic Technologies, we hope you will submit an abstract for the 2019 meeting!

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**Do you have something spectroscopy-related you want to discuss in the newsletter?
Or something that will help our membership such as career tips or application tips?
Please let us know by emailing xchen4@dow.com.**

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