

November 2025 Newsletter



SciX 2025: A Celebration of Innovation and Interdisciplinary Collaboration in Science

SciX 2025 took place 5–10 October in Covington, KY. Organized by the Federation of Analytical Chemistry and Spectroscopy Societies (FACSS), the conference brought together hundreds of scientists for a week of intensive technical sessions, short courses, a career fair, and abundant networking opportunities.

This year's SciX featured a broad range of topics spanning analytical chemistry and allied sciences. Presentations were organized around both instrumental techniques and applications, covering molecular spectroscopy (infrared and Raman), atomic spectroscopy (including conventional and laser-induced breakdown spectroscopy), mass spectrometry, and chemometrics.

A hallmark of SciX is its strong cross-disciplinary programming, which encourages attendees to explore talks and sessions across different technical areas.

Preparations are already underway for SciX 2026, which will be held 4–9 October in Sparks, NV. The program is expected to offer the same rich and diverse content. Oral abstract submissions will open early next year, and sponsors and exhibitors are encouraged to participate. Visit www.scixconference.org for full details.



SAS 2025 Awards Presented at SciX 2025:

NESAS and SAS Lester W. Strock Award – award given by the New England Section of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy in recognition of a selected publication of substantive research in/or application of analytical atomic spectrochemistry in the fields of earth science, life sciences, or stellar and cosmic sciences:

James Ranville, University of Utah

2025 Emeritus Membership Award – recognizes members who have contributed to spectroscopy and have been members of the Society for 15 years and have retired from active scientific endeavor:

Ramon Barnes, University of Massachusetts
Peter Griffiths

Undergraduate Award in Applied Spectroscopy – given to undergraduate students in recognition of outstanding research in the area of spectroscopy:

Alexander Higgins, Purdue University
Paige Anderson, University of Florida
Katherine Seaman, The Ohio State University
Abigail Crossman, University of North Florida
Callum Twining, University of South Carolina

International Atomic Spectrometry Association (IASA) Student Award – recognizes individuals who have excelled in the area of atomic spectroscopy:

Aysuh Agarwal, Paul Scherrer Institute
Hana Kopřivová, CEITEC, Brno University of Technology
Mina Nikolić, Ghent University
Cameron Stouffer, Clemson University

Fellows Award – established to recognize individual members for their outstanding achievements in and contributions to the science, the profession, and the Society:

Rohith Reddy, University of Houston
George Chan, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
Iaon Notingher, University of Nottingham
Jay Kitt, University of Utah
Zachary Shultz, The Ohio State University

William J. Poehlman Service Award – granted to the Regional Section of the Society which has contributed to the most towards accomplishing the goals and ideals of the Society during the preceding year:

The Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh

Barbara Stull Graduate Student Award – given to graduate students in recognition of outstanding research in the area of spectroscopy:

Julia Danischewski, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Masha Zarei, University of British Columbia

Distinguished Service Award – established to recognize individual members for their long-time service to the Society:

Richard Crocombe, Crocombe Spectroscopic Consulting

Honorary Membership Award - This award was established to recognize individuals for their exceptional contributions to the field of spectroscopy

Professor Duncan Graham
Professor R. Kenneth Marcus

Early Career Travel Grants - Early Career Travel Grants will be awarded to Early Career scientists who demonstrate merit in the field of spectroscopy

and/or financial need.

Ailsa Geddis

Willis Jones

Megger's Award Symposium

Dr. Naoto Nagai (Niigata University) received the 2025 *Applied Spectroscopy* William F. Meggers Award at SciX 2025 for the best paper in *Applied Spectroscopy* in 2024 entitled "Azimuth Angle Dependence of Polarized Infrared Spectra of Injection-Molded Polyoxymethylene". He presented his work at the award plenary session on Thursday, 9 October and presided over his award symposium later that morning.



Presenters during the Megger's Award Symposium: (left-to-right) Takeshi Hasegawa, Young Mee Jung, Isao Noda, Naoto Nagai, Christian Pellerin, and Yusuke Morisawa.

Other presenters during the symposium included **Takeshi Hasegawa** (Kyoto University), **Christian Pellerin** (University of Montreal), **Isao Noda** (University of Delaware), **Young Mee Jung** (Kangwon National University), and **Yusuke Morisawa** (Kindai University)

Contributed by Gloria Story, 2024 SAS President

Recap of ECIG Events from SciX 2025!

Thank you to everyone who supported the Early Career Interest Group (ECIG) events at SciX! We had a full room at Smoke Justis on Monday night. Thank you to the student section for participating in this event, and we appreciated the great turnout from the membership! We also want to thank everyone who stopped by for our panel discussion on career paths on Wednesday morning. We anticipate holding a similar symposium session and social event at next year's SciX, so please consider attending our events again next year if you anticipate attending SciX 2026!



Participants at the ECIG social event at Smoke Justis.

Contributed by Anthony Stender, Early Career Interest Group



On-site registration booth. Photo Credit: Glen Jackson.



The Society for Applied Spectroscopy booth at the Expo.



The Masquerade-themed gala featured a glowing sign that set the tone for a fun evening. Photo Credit: Glen Jackson.



Attendees in creative costumes at SciX 2025, added fun and personality to the conference atmosphere. Photo Credit: Glen Jackson.



Masked guests—and even Batman—joined in the fun at the SciX 2025 Masquerade gala! Photo Credit: Glen Jackson.



Attendees enjoying the Gala! Photo Credit: Glen Jackson.

ECIG's Member of the Month

Would you like to volunteer for a future edition of the ECIG Member of the Month? If so, please complete our [online survey!](#)

Introducing our latest member of the month: Malama Chisanga.



Malama Chisanga

Assistant Professor
Department of Chemistry
Dalhousie University

Years at SAS: 5

THE BIGGEST BENEFIT OF SAS MEMBERSHIP?

"Professional development and networking"

CHILDHOOD DREAM JOB?

"Pilot"

WHAT MADE ME FALL IN LOVE WITH SPECTROSCOPY?

"The fact that diseases can be "lightened up" via wiggly lines! I was wowed when I heard this from my MSc thesis supervisor back in Manchester! I immediately fell in love with spectroscopy!"

FAVORITE PART OF MY JOB?

"Mentoring students and seeing them succeed"

WHAT SCIENTIST, PAST OR PRESENT, WOULD I MOST LIKE TO MEET?

"Sir Isaac Newton - His three laws of motion made me fell in love with science!"

Contributed by Anthony Stender, Early Career Interest Group

In Memory of James D. Winefordner (1931–2025)



James Dudley Winefordner, Jim to his many colleagues and friends, was a world leader in developing atomic fluorescence spectroscopy and phosphorimetry for trace analysis, using signal-to-noise calculations and measurements to optimize atomic and molecular spectroscopy, and pioneered the use of lasers in atomic fluorescence spectrometry, atomic emission breakdown spectroscopy, Raman spectroscopy and molecular luminescence spectrometry.

James was born on 31 December 1931, to Carl and Marjorie Brown Winefordner. He received his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Illinois in 1954, 1955 and 1958, respectively, followed by a year as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Illinois. In September 1959, he was appointed to Assistant Professor of Chemistry at the University of Florida. In September 1965 he was appointed to Full Professor, and in 1976 he was appointed Graduate Research Professor. He was Chairman of the Analytical Division of Chemistry for over 30 years.

His research interests involved the understanding of the fundamental aspects, the development of analytical instrumentation, and the application of selective, sensitive spectroscopic methods to the analysis of trace amounts of metal, drugs, and toxic compounds in industrial, biological, and environmental materials. He published over 900 scientific papers, 124 of which were published in *Applied Spectroscopy*, 10 chapters, and 40 refereed reviews on the above topics and gave over 400 invited talks and seminars at international and national conferences and symposia and at universities, colleges, and industries. During his time at the University of Florida, 168 of his graduate students received Ph.D. degrees and 32 more received M.S. degrees. He had more than 100 postdoctoral associates who worked with him.

He was a member of the American Chemical Society, the Society for Applied Spectroscopy, Phi Lambda Phi, Alpha Chi Sigma, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He generated over 25 million dollars in individual grant funds. He was a member of the Advisory Board of many scientific journals, the chairman of the editorial board of *Talanta* and *Spectrochemical Acta B*, and the editor of the *Chemical Analysis* Book Series of John Wiley for over 30 years. He held the highest position in the Analytical Division of the American Chemical Society and the Society for Applied Spectroscopy. He received nine prestigious awards and honors from the

University of Florida, including the 1984 Teacher-Scholar of the year and 23 prestigious national/international awards. Those were the highest awards given by the Society for Applied Spectroscopy, the Pittsburgh Conference, the Eastern Analytical Symposium, and the highest analytical chemistry honors from Sweden, England, and Japan.

Dr. Winefordner was a brilliant scientist. He was also a loving husband, father, and grandfather. Ever-present for his family, he was a trusted confidant, a loyal listener, and a steadfast supporter.

A master chef, his cooking skills were well known, and dinner at his home was an enjoyable event. His large collection of cookbooks shared shelf space with his many scientific writings.

An incredible puzzle master, he worked out difficult puzzles with ease. He treasured the times spent with his family at Flagler Beach, where raucous card games took place, creating much laughter and joy.

His affection for cats began early, as his wife was an avowed cat lover. He would tell you he had no choice but to love them, too. And he did. His last cat, Dudley, was rarely away from his side, and their mutual affection was evident.

The accomplishments he achieved in the world of science have left an indelible imprint on the university and his many students. An honest, modest, and caring man, he will be greatly missed.

He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Laura Whitney Winefordner, sons Philip Winefordner (Jacob Walker) of St. Petersburg, Florida, and Carl Winefordner (Mary Jo Reilly) of Laguna Beach, California, daughter Anne Winefordner of Gainesville, and six grandchildren: Kristen Winefordner, Austin, TX, Ian Winefordner, Sydney, Australia, Whitney Winefordner, Laguna Beach, CA, and in Gainesville: Hannah Fetko, Lex Fetko, and Tucker Fetko. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother John.

The family has requested that contributions in memory of Jim be made to the James D. Winefordner Scholarship Fund, University of Florida Foundation, Inc., PO Box 14425, Gainesville, FL 32604, or the Gainesville Friends Meeting, 702 NW 38 Street, Gainesville, FL 32607.

Friends and colleagues who wish to leave a memory can do so [here](#)



SAS Volunteers Wanted!

**SAS is looking for volunteers to help with
social media and newsletter creation.**

**No experience needed! We welcome individuals from all
backgrounds and skill levels.**

If interested, please contact Konnor Jones at
konnorkjones@gmail.com or Kristen Frano at
kristen.frano@gmail.com.
