

# The SAS Spectrum Newsletter

The Newsletter of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy



## April/May, 2005

### SAS Activities and Reports from Pittcon 2005

#### SAS ACTIVITIES AT PITTCON 2005 INCLUDED:

FACSS/SAS Retreat to discuss future directions in the National Meeting of SAS

SAS Corporate Roundtable to discuss the role of

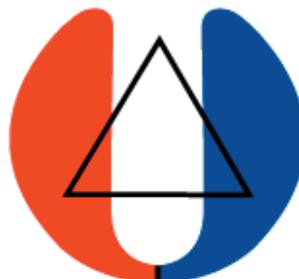
SAS Local/Technical Section Roundtable

SAS Student Mixer



*Debbie Serna and Shrimati Balram at SAS Student Mixer at Pittcon*

## FACSS



FACSS has appointed Air Canada as the official airline for the FACSS Conference in Quebec City, Canada, October 9 - 13, 2005. Simply contact Air Canada's North America toll free number at 1-800-361-7585 or 515-393-9494 or your travel agent to take advantage of the Special Discounted Airfares. You must mention our convention number CV054048 and this number must appear on your ticket. We look forward to seeing you at the SAS National Meeting.

FACSS is currently accepting papers in all areas of analytical chemistry and spectroscopy, including the following: Atomic Spectrometry, Bioanalytical Biomedical/Biological Applications, Chemometrics, Chiral Chemistry, Chromatography, Detecting Weapons of Mass Destruction, Education in Chemistry, Electrochemistry, Electronic Spectroscopy, Forensic Science, Homeland Security, Imaging, Infrared Spectroscopy, Mass Spectrometry, Materials Characterization/NASA, Molecular Spectroscopy, Mid-Infrared, Nanoscience, Near Infrared, Nuclear Magnetic Resonance, NMR, Pharmaceutical Applications, Process Control/Analysis, Proteomics, Raman, Separations, Sensors Vibrational Spectrometry. The deadline for submission of abstracts is April 30, 2005. The 2005 program will be opened with a plenary address from Professor Richard Zare of Stanford University, entitled "Adventures in Chemical Analysis."

#### HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

- Establishment of new publicity committee
- Updated Focal Point CD of all Applied Spectroscopy Focal Point articles
- Electronic Manuscript Processing underway for Applied Spectroscopy
- Searchable pdf files of all backfiles of Applied Spectroscopy available soon
- CD of 34 issues of Arcs and Sparks available
- Results of Member Questionnaire on FACSS
- Rina Dukor selected for Distinguished Service Award
- Wolfgang Kiefer selected for Honorary Membership
- Hirotsugu Hiramatsu and Hiro-o Hamaguchi receive Meggers Award
- James de Haseth and Jon Carnahan nominated for SAS President Elect

#### DETAILS AVAILABLE IN THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### REPORTS TO THE SAS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A.	President's Report	2
B.	Executive Director's Report	2
C.	Journal Editor's Report	3
D.	Online Journal Report	4
E.	Newsletter Editor's Report	4
F.	Treasurer's Report	5
G.	Report of the Retired Newsletter Editor	6
H.	Student Representative Report	6
I.	Membership Committee Report	7
J.	Web Editor's Report	7
K.	Publications Committee Report	8
L.	Report of FACSS Delegates	8
M.	Report of the Representative to the Chemical Heritage Foundation	9
N.	Awards Committee Report	9
O.	Report from the 2004 Meggers Award Committee	9
P.	Nominations Committee Report	10
Q.	SAS Tour Speakers Program for 2005 – Report	10
R.	Member Education Report	10

*Comments to [newsletter@s-a-s.org](mailto:newsletter@s-a-s.org)*

## President's Report to the Executive Committee Spring 2005

During the past few years, the SAS Executive Committee (EC), as well as other SAS members have worked tirelessly to bring SAS concerns to the attention of the FACSS EC and GB. I am anxious to resolve SAS issues while they are foremost in our minds. I believe that FACSS has been receptive to our concerns and we have made significant progress. The FACSS EC initiated the first retreat and paid the lion's share of the associated costs, made significant investments of their time and agreed in principle to our proposals. While, there are still significant issues to resolve, I have every expectation that the major issues will be resolved prior to our fall National Meeting at FACSS. This will be a priority this summer.

It is important that our committees are given direction, empowerment and responsibility to fulfill their duties on behalf of the entire SAS membership. Some of our committees have been ineffective in spite of efforts of our past Presidents and our Executive Director. I will ask the newly organized publicity committee, working closely with the membership committee, to help understand the needs of our members, improve our member relationships, determine reasons for declining membership, and figure out ways to reverse that trend.

I would like to see the technical sections show significant activity this coming year. To this end, I will work with members of the Local and Technical Sections Affairs committee, as well as the chairs for all the technical sections to assure they have the necessary support to enable them to operate effectively. Technical sections may prove to be an important venue providing members who are not active in local sections, a forum for scientific interactions. I am excited to serve this Society. I want to thank you for your support and help during this coming year. I want to especially thank Bob Michel for the tremendous amount of energy that he devoted to the Society this past year. Bob was instrumental in getting the SAS and FACSS officers in a retreat setting in Portland and for seeing that our issues were addressed. In addition, I want to thank Bonnie Saylor for her continual support (and prodding) as well as Barbara and Victor for the timely and professional help they provide.

## Executive Director's Report February 2005

### Membership:

#### **Final 2004 Numbers**

2004: 1,938  
Membership Breakdown USA 1599 International 339  
Total New Members for 2004 157  
Total Student Members 171  
Total Not Renewed for 2004 588  
Registered for Online Journal 415

#### **Current 2005 Numbers**

2005: 1457

Membership Breakdown USA 1245 International 212  
Total New Members for 2005 89  
Total Student Members 120  
Registered for Online Journal 380  
Total Enrolled in a Local Section 901  
Total Enrolled in a Technical Section 713  
Total Paid for Extra Section 81

### Subscriptions:

#### **Final 2004 Numbers**

2004 796 Subscriber Breakdown USA 586 International 210  
Total New Subscribers for 2004 31  
Total Not Renewed for 2004 144  
Registered for Online Journal 241

#### **Current 2005 Numbers**

2005 654 Subscriber Breakdown USA 530 International 124  
This time last year our subscriber numbers were at 722  
Total New Subscribers for 2005 23  
Registered for Online Journal 439 Signed License On File 204

### **Members and Subscribers**

Membership was down once again in 2004 by almost 10%. This is the same percentage decrease as last year which has been fairly consistent over the years. We have sent out second notices and will send third notices when we get back. Our subscriber numbers in 2004 were also down by about 10% over 2003. Down by 83 over 2002 some of which can be attributed to the RoweCom debacle. Second notices have gone out and we will send third notices when we get back. We plan to several marketing campaigns in the next few weeks including a mailing to FACSS attendees and EAS attendees. We will also have a presence at ICAVS this summer. Rina Dukor and Larry Nafie are running it and we will be listed on the registration form for sign-up, we will have info in their packets, and a table set-up with our material.

### **Finances**

Normally at this time we would have undergone our audit, but because PITTCON was so early this year, the auditors did not feel that they could meet our deadlines. As such, the audit is scheduled for the week of March 14. Our accountant, MaryAnne Ohlhoff, has done the preliminary financials for 2004 and it looks like we will be in the black by roughly \$66,000. My projections at FACSS had us in the black at around \$51,000 so, despite, our declining numbers, we continue to do well financially. This is primarily attributed to the large dollar figures we see from reprint and royalty revenue. The fact that our royalty revenue is so significant (\$34,000) indicates that there are large numbers of people who are reading our papers on a pay-per-view basis and also utilizing the copyright clearance center to make copies. That \$34,000 equates to 485 members at \$70 per person. Journal publication is also a key factor in our positive bottom line coming in \$45,000 under budget.

### **Technical/Local Sections**

We are struggling with getting these sections off the ground, although a core group are working very hard to make things work. After polling our most active technical sections to see

which would want to hold a session at FACSS, I passed on the information to Paul Farnsworth for follow-up.

### Report to SAS Executive Committee Joel M. Harris, Journal Editor February 14, 2005

*Applied Spectroscopy* has run smoothly since our meeting in October. Last year, we published 2 accelerated papers, 190 regular articles, 6 spectroscopic technique papers, 15 Notes, 2 Letters (Correspondence), one Feature Article, and 4 Focal-Point articles. Our page count was 1536 pages in the research section and 362 in the A-pages. The return/rejection rate for *Applied Spectroscopy* remains competitive with other top quality journals, averaging ~26% last year. Comparisons with 2002 and 2003 statistics are included on the attached table; we are holding steady with the number of printed pages and articles.

The production costs for the journal are staying below budget thanks to continued aggressive management of manuscript quality, length, and color page costs, along with control of error costs in proofs, figures, and production, thanks to Rebecca Airmet. Rebecca is now editing manuscripts electronically, which saves the Society about \$100 to \$200 per month. Electronic editing also saves the cost of press errors, improves our quality, and saves time spent in rechecking Proofs. Rebecca is preparing to provide marked manuscripts electronically to Allen Press which will be implemented when Allen Press completes their transition to a new typesetting system; this will translate into a shorter time period between manuscript acceptance and publication. She will travel to Allen Press to be trained on the new system sometime this spring. In the *Journal* office, we have switched over to e-mailing PDF Galley Proofs to authors saving time for delivery and response, especially to Europe and Asia and to authors who are traveling. We currently accept electronic submissions of manuscripts on an *ad hoc* basis and are e-mailing more manuscripts to reviewers and generally get a faster response. A fully electronic manuscript-handling system will be launched in July (see below).

Citation impact statistics for *Applied Spectroscopy* have dropped slightly (10%) in the past 3 years (ending in 2003) relative to the previous 3 years. The reasons behind this drop are subject to speculation, but an important factor must be a loss of SAS membership and library subscriptions. SAS memberships (personal subscriptions) have dropped from 3241 in 1996 to 2134 in 2003. Library subscriptions have dropped from 1152 in 1996 to 859 in 2003 (due entirely to a loss of international subscriptions since USA library subscriptions are up). Given a 34% loss in individual subscribers and a 25% loss in library access to the *Journal* since 1996 it is remarkable that our citation impact has not dropped even more. The fraction of libraries signed up for the online edition is currently about 50% of the total subscriptions; therefore, our readership is further restricted by a lack of convenient online-access to our content. The *Journal* cannot have impact if scientists do not have access to read it.

Based on suggestions discussed at the FACSS Publications

Committee meeting, we are taking steps to improve the impact of the *Journal*. These represent an effort directed toward increasing interest in our content and ready access to it. First, we need to help libraries that currently subscribe acquire access to the on-line edition. This is a service for which they have already paid. Keeping this process simple for libraries (as well as SAS members) is important. Second, we should sign up members and non-members for Table of Contents e-mail alerting. This is currently cumbersome because Ingenta's registration procedures. The TOC alerting service could be posted on the SAS website, every electronic TOC page, and we can e-mail SAS members about this service, and look for other e-mail lists (PittCon or FACSS, for example). This would increase interest of potential readers, and they would work to gain access through their libraries. Third, we could lower SAS dues to make it easier to recruit members, especially if our financial situation remains strong. The balance between membership income and journal pricing is an issue that the Executive Committee should discuss. Finally, The Focal Point articles are our most cited papers and the numbers of these have fallen off in the past several years. We are dedicating most of the Editorial Board meeting at PittCon to a discussion of new topics and authors for this series. To further help with this effort, I have appointed a new Focal Point Editor, Rina Dukor, to coordinate articles in the biospectroscopy and vibrational spectroscopy areas. New Editorial Board appointments for 2005 include Detlef Günther, David Hahn, Carol Korzeniewski, Akbar Montasser, Larry Nafie, and Mike Pelletier.

Thanks to the efforts of the Meggers Committee chair, Eileen Skelly Frame, and her committee, the Meggers Award balloting was completed in January to allow the 2004 award paper "Development of Infrared Electroabsorption Spectroscopy and Its Application to Molecular Structural Studies" by Hirotsugu Hiramatsu and Hiro-o Hamaguchi to be recognized in a symposium at FACSS in October. The paper appeared in the April 2004 issue of *Applied Spectroscopy* (Volume 58, Number 4, pages 355-366).

An updated CD containing PDF files of all the Focal Point articles from 1994 through 2004 has been organized and edited by Stephen Bialkowski and duplicated by the *Journal Office*. The volume also includes the recent Meggers Award papers, Focus on Careers, and material about the Society from the SAS web pages. These have been reproduced by the *Journal* office at a modest cost, ~\$1.40/ea in lots of 200 or more. Copies of the CD are available for purchase from the Society Office by SAS members and students taking courses in spectroscopy. Further suggestions for production and distribution are welcome.

A budget proposal to fund the acquisition of an Electronic Manuscript Processing for *Applied Spectroscopy* was approved by the Executive Committee at FACSS. This system will allow manuscript submission and processing for the *Journal* to become entirely electronic, including reviewer requests, transmission of manuscripts to reviewers, the return of reviews, transmission of decisions and reviews to authors, and submission of revised manuscripts by authors. This integrated manuscript processing system will give authors the ability to query the status of their paper through

the review and production process. Our journal printer *Allen Press* has proposed a manuscript-handling system from e-Journal Press that merges with their production system. E-Journal Press provides the online submission and peer review software for the American Institute of Physics, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM), American Society for Cell Biology, and the Nature Publishing Group. E-JournalPress would allow the Editors access to the manuscripts, reviews, and reviewer data from any internet location. Our Editors in Europe and Asia could also coordinate their reviewing through the system. Part of the cost of implementing this system could be recouped in postage savings. We will translate our Reviewer Database this spring and implement this new system starting in July.

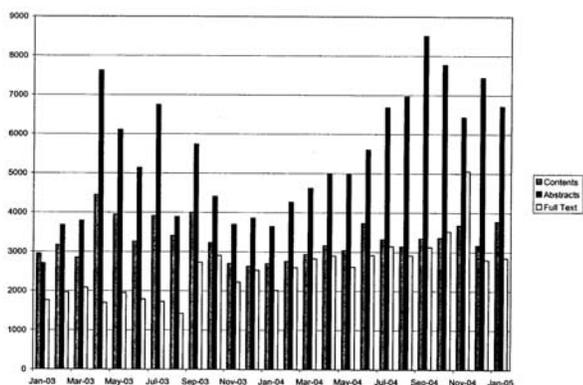
#### APPLIED SPECTROSCOPY STATISTICS

	2002	2003	2004
Focal Point Articles	4	4	4
Accelerated Articles	4	7	2
Submitted Articles	208	190	190
Spectroscopic Techniques	6	11	6
Notes	16	22	15
Correspondence	2	2	2
Feature Articles			1
Total articles printed	240	236	220
Rejected manuscripts	60	59	35
Returned manuscripts	32	23	43
Total rejected and returned	92	82	78
Papers received for review	343	315	298
Total A-pages	343	364	362
Total manuscript pages	1662	1642	1536
Total printed pages	2005	2006	1536

#### Online Journal Report Pittcon2005

##### Usage Statistics

The online usage statistics for the past 25 months are summarized in the chart below.



##### Most frequently accessed articles.

Appl Spectrosc (v57n 1 s 1) - Quantitative Analysis Using Raman Spectrometry	382
Appl Spectrosc (v56n2s2) - Surface-Enhanced Raman Spectroscopy in Single Living Cells Using Gold Nanoparticles	270

Appl Spectrosc (v57n11s1) - Surface Plasmon Resonance Imaging as a Tool to Monitor Biomolecular Interactions in an Array Based Format	225
Appl Spectrosc (v56n11s1) - Optical Trapping: A Versatile Technique for Biomanipulation	211
Appl Spectrosc (v57n1 Os2) - Laser-Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy Detection and Classification Of Biological Aerosols	208
Appl Spectrosc (v56n 1 s 1) - Quantum Dots: A Primer	198
Appl Spectrosc (v57n3s 1) - Hyphenated Techniques for Elemental Speciation in Biological Systems	196
Appl Spectrosc (v57n8s 1) - Identification of Bacterial Spores Using Statistical Analysis of Fourier Transform Infrared Photoacoustic Spectroscopy Data	192
Appl Spectrosc (v57n1 Os6) - In Vivo Noninvasive Measurement of Blood Glucose by Near-Infrared Diffuse-Reflectance Spectroscopy	184
Appl Spectrosc (v58n1s5) - Surface-Enhanced Raman Spectroscopy as a Tool for Probing Specific Biochemical Components in Bacteria	168

##### Backfile Project

We contracted with Pinehurst Technologies to create searchable pdf files of all back issues of the journal and to generate the SGML header material that Ingenta requires for posting of the papers. The scanning is complete and generation of the SGML headers is underway. The total bill for Pinehurst's services will be \$30,436.

As the SGML preparation is completed, Pinehurst will ship the files to Ingenta, with copies to Bonnie, so that Ingenta can begin posting the material. Ingenta's charge will be \$85 per issue, for a total of \$27,115. We can expect Ingenta to have the files posted by the end of the summer, so we should sell access to the backfile with our 2006 subscriptions. If it is completed in time, we may want to offer access free for a month or two to develop interest among our subscribers.

I would welcome recommendations for the pricing to libraries for access to the backfile. We need as a minimum to recover our costs, and it wouldn't hurt to make some money on the project. Of 796 subscribers, only 241 are registered for online journal use. We could pay for the project if half of the 241 online users paid a \$500 one-time fee for access to the backfile.

#### Newsletter Editor's Report David Butcher January 25, 2005

Thanks to considerable assistance from Marvin Margoshes, the previous Newsletter Editor, and Stephen Bialkowski, the Web Editor, the online Newsletter is up and running. The first issue considered the change in the Newsletter Position, with the second featuring our SAS Student Representative, Debbie Serna. Special thanks to Randy Bishop, Chris Hassell, and Gary Hieftje for allowing their presentations to be posted to the Newsletter website. I look forward to comments and suggestions regarding this publication.

## Treasurers Report

Actuals vs. Budget (Summary)  
January through December 2004

		Jan-Dec 04	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>Ordinary Income</b>	<b>Income/Expense</b>				
	4100 Education Programs	0.00	15,000.00	(15,000.00)	0.0 %
	4230 Focal Point Book	351.00	1,000.00	(649.00)	35.1 %
	4300 Member Dues	135,644.00	150,000.00	(14,356.00)	90.4 %
	4500 Journal Income	629,142.61	592,200.00	36,942.61	106.2%
	4800 Chapter Income	155.00	1,200.00	(1,045.00)	12.9%
	4830 General Contributions	4,135.00	7,000.00	(2,865.00)	59.1%
	4850 Investment Income	4,974.76	10,000.00	(5,025.24)	49.7%
	4900 Misc. Income	4,084.48	2000.00	2084.48	204.2%
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>778,486.85</b>	<b>778,400.00</b>	<b>86.85</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Expense</b>					
	6000 Salaries	126,474.74	125,000.00	1,474.74	101.2%
	6040 Payroll Taxes	9,388.74	11,000.00	(1,611.26)	85.4%
	6060 Personnel Benefits	3,999.79	4,500.00	(500.21)	88.9%
	6100 Executive Comm	29,296.25	28,000	1,296.25	104.6%
	6150 Governing Board	1286.10	3,000.00	(1,713.90)	42.9%
	6170 Membership Comm	0.00	200.00	(200.00)	0.0%
	6190 Other Committees	1,184.26	1,200.00	(15.74)	98.7%
	6200 Journal	397,934.32	443,100.00	(45,165.68)	89.8%
	6300 Newsletter	4,267.89	5,000.00	(732.11)	85.4%
	6330 Internet Services	2,031.40	2,000.00	31.40	101.6%
	6400 Member Services	19,044.85	12,000.00	(7044.44)	158.7%
	6500 Member Education	0.00	10,000.00	(10,000.00)	0.0%
	6600 Awards	17,887.99	18,000.00	(112.01)	99.4%
	6650 Sections	20,852.56	28,000.00	(7,147.44)	74.5%
	6700 Conferences	7,693.43	8,000.00	(306.57)	96.2%
	6730 Member Acquis/Retent	4,266.82	15,000.00	(10,733.18)	28.4%
	6800 Society Office	70,749.91	70,000.00	749.91	101.1%
	6970 Fundraising	428.40	300.00	128.40	142.8%
	7000 Financing Expenses	3,989.14	4,600.00	(610.86)	86.7%
	7200 Depreciation	736.00	2,000.00	(1,264.00)	36.8%
<b>Total Expense</b>		<b>721,512.59</b>	<b>790,900.00</b>	<b>(69,387.41)</b>	<b>91.2%</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>		<b>56,974.26</b>	<b>(12,500.00)</b>	<b>2,874.42</b>	<b>77.0%</b>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>					
<b>Other Expense</b>					
	9020 Voided Checks	0.00			
	9900 Chapter Distribution Add -Back	(9,625.58)	(12,500.00)	2,874.42	77.0%
<b>Total Other Expense</b>		<b>(9,625.58)</b>	<b>(12,500.00)</b>	<b>2,874.42</b>	<b>77.0%</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>		<b>9,625.58</b>	<b>12,500.00</b>	<b>(2,874.42)</b>	<b>77.0%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>		<b>66,599.84</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>66,599.84</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## Report of the Retired Newsletter Editor Marvin Margoshes January 13, 2005

The transfer of responsibility for the newsletter to Dave Butcher was smooth. I gave him the information he asked for, plus a DVD with the newsletter files from my computer. Mike Epstein provided me with copies of his files on a CD when I took over the position from him, and that material had lasting utility. Most recently, I was able to include some of his newsletter issues from his CD on the *Spectrohistory* CD.

I'm keeping my newsletter e-mail address, SASNews@cloud9.net, for the time being, in case some information is sent there that he should have. Anyone wishing to send an e-mail to me should use my personal address, physchem@cloud9.net.

I posted the reports to the October Governing Board meeting on the Web site, absent the Minutes, which were not yet released. However, the Minutes can be added easily, when they are available.

The CD containing pdf files of documents relating to the history of spectroscopy was completed before the end of January, and went to ELS Production in Salt Lake City for reproduction, so copies can be available at PittCon. It is the same company that reproduced the Focal Point CDs. One hundred copies were ordered; the price per copy does not decrease by much if 200 are ordered. More copies can be made quickly if needed, corrections can be made of any errata that are found, and content can be added if more issues of *Arcs and Sparks* turn up.

The CD, entitled *Spectrohistory; People, Places and Events of Spectroscopy in the 20th Century*, contains copies of thirty-four issues of *Arcs and Sparks* that were initially published between 1952 and 1967, and sixteen issues of *The SAS Spectrum* from 1996 to the last print issue in 2004. The text is searchable, and the page images look onscreen like the original, though the fidelity of the colors will naturally depend on how the reader's screen is set up. I haven't made a page count, but estimate that the CD contains 700 to 1000 pages of material.

This is the second book on CD that SAS has published, and the first to have an ISBN number assigned to it. The price is the same as for the Focal Point CD: \$10 for SAS members, \$20 for others, with quantity discounts. Shipping and handling charges, to be set by the Office, apply to mail and phone orders. The cost to us per copy is under \$2.25 including the plastic case. That does not include setup costs; most of that expense was for the OCR software, Read Iris Pro, which cost just under \$140.

I plan to send review copies to a few journals, to publicize this publication. They will include *Applied Spectroscopy*, *Analytical Chemistry*, *Spectroscopy*, and *Chemical Heritage* magazine. And I'll try to get a notice in the newsletter of the Standards Alumni Association – retirees from NBS and NIST. Quite a lot of material about NBS staff members and

laboratories is on the CD.

I ask the Publication Committee to consider a policy on other books on CD that SAS and its Sections may produce in the future. Because it is inexpensive to make copies in small numbers, a book does not have to appeal to a large audience, but it can be a valuable service to members.

I also ask the Publication Committee to consider ways to promote sales of the CDs to nonmembers, where there is a potential for significant earnings. For example, Adobe Digital Media Store offers e-books in pdf format. A search of that site with the term "spectro" turned up 24 titles. Barnes and Noble and Amazon.com also sell e-books. The purchaser downloads a file, and the publisher gets half of the purchase price. Files sold this way to non-members could be priced the same as the CDs. There is a chance of pirating, but no more than when we sell only CDs; our CDs are not copy protected. (That is also something to consider for the future.)

## Student Representative Report Spring 2005 Debbie Serna

As student representative I have successfully interacted with several young scientists like myself. By organizing several activities at FACSS and PITTCON I have become aware of what students are looking for at these conferences and what activities are worth repeating for future conferences. A list of the activities held at FACSS in Portland, Oregon and future activities are listed below.

A career luncheon was held in conjunction with FACSS's employment bureau. Several students and scientists were present for an informal discussion about various career paths. Representatives from private sector, government agencies and academia were present.

A seminar, "Strategies for Career Development" was organized with speakers from different career paths. Gary Heiftje employed with Indiana University, David Butcher employed with Western Carolina University, Christian Hassell employed with Los Alamos National Laboratory, and Randy Bishop who is employed with GE Advanced Materials all presented talks in their designated careers. 12 SAS student members attended and dinner was held after the seminar. Students felt the session was informative and suggested that we have something similar at next year's FACSS.

Last year at PITTCON, a social event took place for all students to attend. It was very successful; therefore I am implementing a similar social gathering in Orlando.

Flyers and emails have been the best point of contact for students. By encouraging students to attend events at PITTCON and FACSS together we can begin to build a close networking relationship and look forward to discussing new research projects, the ups and downs of graduate programs and similar topics at future conferences.

A small number of student members have discussed the idea

of having a half-day oral symposium at FACSS. If a morning or afternoon session can be dedicated to graduate/undergraduate student research where they can give an oral presentation on their research that would be beneficial to them. I will focus on organizing a symposium for FACSS '05.

**Membership Committee**  
**Rajiv S. Soman and Augustus W. Fountain III**  
**January 13, 2005**

Rajiv Soman transitioned the chairmanship of the committee to Way Fountain this summer. Neither Rajiv nor Way was able to attend the October 2004 meeting of the SAS Executive Committee. Several observations and suggestions were presented at the SAS EC Retreat in March 2004 by Rajiv and are still relevant today.

Membership appears to continue to decline; though the number at comparable time appears to be higher in 2004 than in 2003. Membership in 2003 was approximately down 10% when compared to 2002. This is true for Regular, International and Student members, with total Student membership being down nearly half in 2004 when compared to 2003 (206 Student members in 2003 versus 120 in 2004). The future of the Society is with the next generation of spectroscopists, not necessarily with the current one. The burden for attracting more students into our society is with members who are also faculty members at colleges and universities. If faculty members are not selling their students on the benefits of the being a member in SAS then no slick add or marketing campaign ever will.

Membership has to mean more than getting "the Journal." The sole purpose of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy is to "advance and disseminate knowledge and information concerning the art and science of spectroscopy." The best way to accomplish that goal is not through the journal or short courses, but through the direct support and mentorship of students, young scientists, and other spectroscopists. Membership needs to provide individuals the opportunity to personally interact with other scientists who share a common interest. We have placed this burden solely on the shoulders of the Local Sections, but at the same time we have geographically hobbled them. In order to make local sections more active, perhaps it is time that we encourage smaller or different geographic regions for local sections or somehow redistrict them to better meet the members needs.

The other way for members to personally interact is through the sponsorship of conferences and colloquia. I will not rehash the topic of having our own conference here, but we need to improve the visibility of the Society as well as increase membership. That would do it. However, perhaps we could sponsor sessions or smaller colloquia at conferences other than FACSS or PITTCON (e.g. ACS, OSA or SPIE conferences).

I personally do not believe that we need to explore discounted membership or joint memberships with other societies at a reduced rate. However, this idea has been bounced around several times. \$70 should not be that great of a financial burden for working professionals, especially if they feel

membership provides a more significant value.

A limited phone campaign and some surveys were conducted during the year, but we really need to formally survey those persons who have discontinued their membership. We also need to know how our International members are being (or not being) served? Given a database with names and current addresses, I (AWF) could prepare the survey and get it out to members. Optimally we could also do it through the web, but I would need access to the website or help posting it.

The membership committee needs to meet on a more formal basis. So far all contact has been done electronically and it is insufficient for us to formulate recommendations and act on them. I recommend that the committee meet at both FACSS and PITTCON prior to EC Meeting if possible. Funds may be needed to set up a working lunch or at a minimum to secure a meeting room at a hotel.

**Society for Applied Spectroscopy Web Editor's Report**  
**February 2, 2005**  
**Stephen Bialkowski**

The past six months have been spent performing routine maintenance on the Societies web site. This include keeping job postings, meeting posts, updating membership forms, society news, checking and verifying links, updating the Corporate Sponsor lists, links, and logos, and performing miscellaneous tasks such as deleting old content. There has been relatively little change in the structure of the web site. A little more work was done on the Focal Point CD ROM. It now has a ISBN number and the content is relatively up to date. The CD ROM will need to be updated periodically to include new Focal Point articles and SAS web-site content.

A new way to track web use has been running and there are now some reliable statistics for the number of times the main web page is accessed. These are summarized below.

**Past Months**

Jan	35	
Feb	86	
Mar	73	
Apr	85	
May	72	
Jun	73	
Jul	88	
Aug	97	
Sep	113	
Oct	141	
Nov	129	
Dec	93	
Jan	104	

### Continents

North America	689	57.65%
Asia	224	18.74%
Europe	166	13.89%
South America	51	4.26%
Unknown	33	2.76%
Oceania	24	2.00%
Africa	7	0.58%
Central America	1	0.08%

### Days of the Week

Monday	211	17.65%
Tuesday	229	19.16%
Wednesday	207	17.32%
Thursday	195	16.31%
Friday	169	14.14%
Saturday	85	7.11%
Sunday	99	8.28%

Since PITTCON attracts such a wide audience we have found that socials are the better events as well as trying to recruit as much as possible at the SAS booth. However, at FACSS we can have more activities similar to the few mentioned above as well as recruiting new student members.

### SAS Publications Committee Report of the October 4, 2004 Meeting

The meeting was held at the Portland, OR Convention Center in conjunction with the FACSS meeting.

Present: Steven Bialkowski, David Butcher, Paul Farnsworth, Joel Harris, Curtis Marcott, Marvin Margoshes, Robert Michel, Michael Morris

Joel Harris reported that Applied Spectroscopy continues to run smoothly under the administration of Rebecca Airmet. Mailing now occurs by the second week of the month, and most frequently in the first week. Electronic editing has reduced errors and production costs. Typesetting changes at Allen Press will soon result in a shorter time between acceptance and publication. Electronic submissions are accepted (but not required) and electronic manuscript review will be implemented in July 2005. The editor's report commented on the recent decline in the ISI impact factor. Harris suggested that a decline in membership and in library subscriptions is partly responsible. Only about half of the libraries that take the journal use electronic access, although the subscription entitles them to it. There has been a decrease in the number of Focal Point articles, which are among the most highly cited.

There followed a general discussion of impact factor issues, based in part on e-mail discussions among committee members. The maturity of FTIR and Raman technologies is partly responsible. There has been little non-linear spectroscopy reported in the journal, but this is changing and bodes well for the future. The shortcomings of impact factors were mentioned (they exaggerate the importance of review

articles and trendy fields and give inadequate weight to specialist journals, they depend on citation practices within a discipline). Whatever the merits of the impact factor, it is considered important by prospective authors and by administrators. Therefore it is important to attempt to raise it to the 2.0-2.5 level that is typical of highly regarded specialty journals. Increasing the number of Focal Point articles, broadening the editorial board to include people from newer applications areas were two promising suggestions. Margoshes reported that the last print issue of the Newsletter was now available. Future issues will be web only. A CD-ROM with back issues should be ready by the end of the year.

Bialkowski reported that there will be new content on the Society web site, including what's new (product) information, journal supplementary information. This content will be archived. Bialkowski also reported that a CD-ROM containing early Focal Point articles is now available.

Butcher reported that the new on-line newsletter will have new content. Some will be aimed at students, such as job postings. The general Society web site and the newsletter site will be coordinated so that there is little or no overlap. A short discussion on better methods for publicizing the Society and its publications was held. It was suggested that there be more systematic distribution of membership flyers at specialist meetings. SAS officers (or any member) could carry these to conferences. HTML tags could be added to appropriate web sites.

### Report of FACSS delegates Robert G Michel, February 2005

The SAS delegates believe that FACSS continues to be one of the best available technical meetings on general analytical chemistry, and it occupies a preeminent position in the Fall conference calendar. This was borne out by the results of a questionnaire on FACSS that we promulgated in the summer of 2004.

The full set of results of that **questionnaire** can be found on the SAS web site at: <http://s-a-s.org/> The total number of respondents was 277, which is about 14% of our membership. We found that, in line with the well-known decline in FACSS attendance over the last decade or so, only a minority of our membership attends FACSS almost every year, even though a majority thinks that FACSS is useful. (The FACSS attendance figures have ranged from about 2400 in Chicago in 1989 to about 1400 in Providence in 1997 dropping to less than 900 in Portland this year.) A majority of our membership prefers oral symposia with a large minority preferring equal distribution between posters and oral. Also, there is a majority that is happy about moving the meeting throughout North America, and a majority thinks the registration is too high. Those who attend regularly are less likely to think the registration is too high compared to those who attend every few years. Written opinions of the respondents are on our web site. The results of this questionnaire highlight our members' lack of interest, finances, or time to attend the meeting. Lack of attendance forced the FACSS organization to reduce the number of oral presentations, and increase the number of poster

presentations, at the recent FACSS meeting in Portland. These measures were taken to ensure that oral presentations attract a sizable audience, while simultaneously improving the perceived status of posters.

In the Spring, the SAS executive committee wrote to the 2004 Governing Board Chair of FACSS, to express our thoughts about the organization of FACSS and how FACSS serves the needs of SAS. The main tenet of the document was that FACSS is our only **national meeting**. If we had an independent national meeting, we would be able to require membership of SAS to attend the meeting, take profits from the meeting, boost the visibility of the society through such a meeting, and be materially involved in the planning of the scientific program. All these things have proved difficult or impossible, because we cede our national meeting to FACSS. FACSS has been responsive to our concerns and the FACSS governing board has agreed to conduct regular "retreats" in which such issues can be discussed in an informal manner outside the formalities of FACSS governing board meetings. The first such retreat was held in Portland, OR, on Saturday October 2, 2004. The format of the retreat was two separate meetings, with the first being between the SAS and FACSS executive committees in the morning. This meeting was successful in that SAS was able to fully air the issues of concern. The second meeting with the FACSS governing board, in the afternoon, was intended to discuss the future of FACSS, and it can be said that progress was made. The progress included an acknowledgment that regular retreats are useful and should continue, and plans are underway to feed funds from the non-member FACSS registration back to SAS to help recruit new members. This would mean that non-member FACSS registrants would have optional membership in SAS included in their non-member registration cost. Unfortunately, the afternoon meeting's format prevented your SAS delegates from being able to fully articulate SAS concerns to the whole FACSS governing board.

The SAS executive committee has proposed some **specific solutions** to address our concerns with the FACSS scientific program. The most important of these was to increase the continuity of the FACSS program committee by creation of new officers of the committee who would have longer terms than the present one-year of the program section chairs. Already, FACSS has moved to give the program chair an official status for longer than the previous 2-year term, and has added past program chairs as advisors to the program chair. However, there continues to be resistance to the concept of a program committee with longer-term members composed of people who actually organize the program. Also, the SAS executive would like to see more face-to-face planning meetings throughout the 18-24 month planning process for a FACSS meeting. In recent years the planning meetings have become short and infrequent. Finally, the SAS executive would like to see a more transparent nomination process for officers of FACSS, and intensive publicity efforts to raise awareness of the meeting throughout the scientific community.

Overall, the discussions with FACSS have resulted in some positive directions, and we expect that such positivity will result in benefits for the society, as well as in the quality of the scientific program at FACSS. The next retreat will be on the Sunday before Pittcon in 2005, where we expect discussion to continue in our interests, and in the interests of FACSS.

The minutes of the last FACSS governing board meeting, held at the Portland 2004 FACSS meeting, were not available at the time of writing.

### Report of the Representative to the Chemical Heritage Foundation Marvin Margoshes January 13, 2005

I was unable to attend the October meeting of the CHF Heritage Council because it was at the same time as a meeting of another organization that I felt deserved higher priority at the time. The Minutes of the CHF meeting showed that I was correct, in that no important business was transacted. CHF is undergoing a review of their governance by outside consultants, which includes the function of the Heritage Council. I have had some contact with the consultants in the past. I feel that the review is a serious effort to determine what changes, if any, should be made because CHF has reached a new phase. They have established a leading position, including having the largest instrument collection on the largest library in their field.

I also missed the meeting of the Instruments and Artifacts Committee on the same day. However, the Committee has transacted some business by e-mail. Most of the business has been discussion of comments to CHF about the draft list of 50 Instruments That Changed the World. Other business was about potential acquisitions for the instrument collection.

### Awards Committee Report Spring 2005

SAS Awards Committee: Marc Kenneth Boysworth, Doug Schrader, Christian Hassell

After deliberation, the awards committee has decided that **Rina Dukor** is our choice for Distinguished Service Award. She has devoted years of service both at a local and national SAS levels, and continues to contribute and be of service to SAS. **Wolfgang Kiefer** is our choice for Honorary Membership. His groundbreaking work in the spectroscopic arena and his service to our society (i.e. editorship of Applied Spectroscopy and committee work) make him an excellent recipient for this honor. Both of these decisions were unanimous.

### Report from the 2004 Meggers Award Committee Eileen M. Skelly Frame, Ph.D. Chair, 2004 Meggers Award Committee

The 2004 Meggers Award Committee selected Hirotsugu Hiramatsu and Hiro-oHamaguchi as the winners of the Meggers Award for their paper, "Development of Infrared Electroabsorption Spectroscopy and Its Application to Molecular Structural Studies". The paper appeared in the April 2004 issue of Applied Spectroscopy (Volume 58, Number 4, pages 355-366). The paper was chosen based on its quality, novelty and impact to the field from among a strong field of excellent papers.

At the request of the SAS President, the 2003 committee remained in place for 2004 to reconcile the timing of appointments, term of the committee and deadline for the selection of the award winner. The chair submitted a draft outlining the committee's duties, timeline for completing those duties and other pertinent information to the SAS president and National Office as requested.

The 2005 Meggers Award Committee will be chaired by Vahid Majidi.

**Nominations Committee Report**  
**Rachael Barbour – Chair, Jim Holcombe, Alex Scheeline, George Havrilla, Dave Butcher**

We are pleased to nominate for President-elect the following:

Dr. James A. de Haseth  
Department of Chemistry  
University of Georgia

Dr. Jon W. Carnahan  
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry  
Northern Illinois University

I have asked both gentlemen to forward their biographical information directly to Bonnie Saylor. Both Jon and Jim have a wealth of experience and talent and either would be an excellent choice for President of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy.

The Nominating Committee would also like to encourage the Exec Committee and/or Presidents and Pres-Elect to start circulating more promising people into positions where they can satisfy the criteria for national SAS offices. We have a number of active people that have been on committees, in local section positions or long term Board members but have not held chairmanship positions on SAS committees (or other positions that qualify them for officer consideration).

**SAS Tour Speakers Program for 2005 – Report**  
**Joseph Sneddon, Chair**

Eleven speakers had agreed to serve as 2005 SAS Tour speakers. In late October, all thirty seven sections were contacted, provided with the speakers and presentations and asked if they would like to participate in the 2005 speakers program. The head office would provide transportation to the local section. The local section would provide hotel, etc. Eighteen sections responded by early December and nine of the speakers were scheduled. One section (Cincinnati-Jorge Gardea-Torresdey, UT-El Paso) requested their speaker for mid-February, and one section (Chicago-Brad Jones, Wake Forest) for mid-March. The other sections requested April or May. Each section was offered a speaker and all are starting to firm up for these dates. In these cases, each speaker is visiting two or in many cases three sections in the same week and on consecutive days (nights).

We have entered into an exchange of speakers with Canadian Spectroscopy Society (CSS). Troy Wood (SUNY-Buffalo) will

tour East Coast of Canada and Steve Soper-LSU will tour West Coast of Canada. Dr. Beauchemin from CSS will speak at two sections (Buffalo and Delaware) and Dr Li from Alberta will be the speaker at one section (Pacific Northwest). In the case of the Canadian exchange, the head office will cover transport to Canada and the CSS will provide transport to US. The feasibility of an exchange tour speaker program for 2007 with Far East (Korea and Japan) and Europe (UK and Italy) is currently under investigation. Preliminary costs are estimated at \$10 K. This would require raising support through sponsorship. A fuller report including detailed costs will be made in October 2005.

**Member Education Report for Pittcon 2005**  
**Report prepared for the SAS Executive Committee Meeting, February 26, 2005**  
**Steve Barnett**

The Membership Education program has built up a series of lectures for distribution to SAS members. The current list of lectures that have been, or will soon be, completed are:

Speaker, Affiliation	Title	Date of Lecture
Prof. Daniel Higgins, Kansas State University	"New Optical Microscopic Methods for Characterization of Thin Films	2002
Dr. Isao Noda, Proctor & Gamble	"Two-Dimensional (2-D) Correlation Spectroscopy"	2003
Dr. Hugh Gotts, Balazs Analytical Services	"FT-IR and Raman Spectroscopy/Microscopy in the Semiconductor Industry"	2005
Dr. Dianne Parry (with 1-2 other colleagues), Proctor & Gamble	Career in Chemistry/Spectroscopy Letter	2005 (during spring)

Prof. Higgins will be asked to review his presentation in order to provide an opportunity to update the information and data in his presentation. Upon completion of that review, the first set of CDs with these lectures will be distributed to the membership. While it was hoped to have these CDs ready to distribute early in 2005, it is now likely to be summer 2005 when these CDs are distributed. This will be accompanied by a campaign for the local and technical sections to play an active role in new lectures to be included in this program starting in the Fall 2005.

**Publicity Report**

In January 2005, the Publicity Chair and Bonnie Saylor specified a new SAS brochure. A sample of the new brochure was submitted to the Executive Committee at the Pittsburgh Conference Meeting.

**See you in Quebec at FACSS!**