

# The SAS Spectrum Newsletter

The Newsletter of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy



## April, 2009

### SAS EVENTS AT PITTCON 2009 IN CHICAGO



SAS sponsored two symposia at Pittcon in Chicago congratulating Pittcon on 60 Years of Showcasing Scientific Innovation. Debbie Bradshaw organized, "Developments in Atomic Spectroscopy - All in the Family or Sibling Rivalry" on Monday, March 9. Presenters, shown at the upper photograph, included Gary Hieftje, John Ole-sik, David Hahn, Jim Holcombe, and Joe Caruso. John Chalmers organized, "Developments in Vibrational Spectroscopy: Where Do We Go from Here," also on March 9. Symposium participants (lower photograph) included Rohit Bhargava, Richard McCreery, Michael Claybourne, Katherine Bakeev, John Chalmers (organizer and president), and Peter Griffiths. SAS Student Representative Michelle Meighan also organized a student event in Chicago for student members.

**NEW! Revolutionary RAMAN Spectrometer !**  
Introducing, for the 1<sup>st</sup> time ever, an instrument that combines:  
**RAMAN Microscopy, RAMAN and  
RAMAN OPTICAL ACTIVITY (ROA)** Watch the unveiling at [www.btools.com](http://www.btools.com)



### SAS AWARDS

The 2009 **Lester Strock Award** will be presented to Prof. Nicolo Omenetto of the University of Florida for his path-breaking work in the field of Laser-Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy.

The 2009 **William F. Meggers Award** will be presented to Yongri Liang, Damien Maurian, Robert E. Prud'homme, and Christian Pellerin of the University of Montreal for "A New Method for the Time-Resolved Analysis of Structure and Orientation: Polarization Modulation Infrared Structural Absorbance Spectroscopy," *Applied Spectroscopy*, Volume 62, Issue 9.

The 2009 **Ellis R. Lippincott Award** will be presented to Professor Michael D. Fayer of Stanford University.

### APRIL HISTORICAL EVENTS IN SPECTROSCOPY by Leopold May, Catholic University



**April 12, 1872** This is the birthday of Georges Urbain who discovered the law of optimum phosphorescence of binary systems and the element lutetium with K. Auer von Weisbach. He also wrote a text "Introduction à l'étude de la spectro-chemie" and was an chemist-composer.

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Comments to [butcherATemail.wcu.edu](mailto:butcherATemail.wcu.edu)

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**  
**JON W. CARNAHAN**  
**MARCH 2009**

I am personally excited about the upcoming activities of 2009, the changes we are undergoing, the new opportunities, and the new officers coming on board. But, in this report, I would like to touch on some of the happenings of recent past. Although John Chalmers term as President has ended, he will still be with us, holding the office of Past-President. His hard work has helped open new doors for SAS membership in Europe. When the dust clears, it is clear that his efforts will result in stronger ties and enhanced membership across the Atlantic. Directions have been finalized and Past President James de Haseth has been working very hard to implement our new web-presence. 2008 saw the election of President-Elect Fred LaPlant. Fred possesses boundless energy and will undoubtedly carry the SAS to solid new initiatives.

In the coming year, the journal will see major changes, as well. Long time Editor-in-Chief Joel Harris and his close partner, Editor Paul Farnsworth, are stepping down. It has been a great run for the journal. Under Joel's leadership, with Paul's steadfast support, the journal has enhanced its scientific reputation while remaining, perhaps, the best value in scientific literature. That being said, I cannot express how fortunate I believe the society to be to have a renowned scientist such as Peter Griffiths following in Joel's footsteps. The society is also particularly happy to have Ed MacMillan of Allen Press return to the advertising team of the journal and society.

The Society is now in its 51st year. The 50th SAS anniversary was properly celebrated with a journal anniversary issue and a wonderful celebration reception at PittCon in New Orleans. Special SAS vibrational and atomic spectroscopy symposia commemorating the event in New Orleans were particularly well attended.

The SAS recognizes that graduate students are its future and lifeblood. As such, recent years have seen efforts to enhance interactions and involvement with students. Student poster sessions and awards have been trademarks of the past. SAS student mixers have become particularly popular at recent FACSS and PittCon meetings. In the last year, with the hard work of David Heaps, Michelle Meighan, and faculty members at these schools, Arizona State and Brigham Young Universities have developed our most recent student chapters!! Undoubtedly, more will come in the future. In addition, membership drives on the exhibit floors at PittCon and FACSS have been particularly successful. The contributions of Mike and Mary Carrabba are particularly noteworthy in this respect.

The SAS office remains solid. Bonnie Saylor, Victor Hutcherson and Stephanie Iocco continue to give us strong support, helpful guidance, and timely reminders to keep the organization running smoothly. It takes special hands to keep volunteer organizations operational in these modern fast-paced and economically unstable times. We, the members of the SAS, are quite lucky in this respect. Sadly, this January, we saw the passing of our dear and close friend from the SAS office, Barbara Stull. Barb was always a joy to talk with at FACSS and PittCon. She kept an even keel and was always there to offer a pat on the back and a hug when concerns seemed to weigh so heavily. When I would visit her in the conference booth, I always knew that I leave with a smile on my face and a delightful story about her wonderful family. Barb was truly loved by all and will be greatly missed.

As we look to 2009 and beyond, we see to a bright future for the society. While it appears that the approaching economic times are of concern, this is a time when societies can best step forward to help the membership. We hope to continue be an invaluable resource in terms of the promotion of spectroscopy, dissemination of science, and assistance to our members.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA**  
**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2008**

**GRAND SIERRA RESORT, RENO, NV**  
**MCKINLEY ROOM**

**BUSINESS MEETING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28**

**I. Call To Order John Chalmers**

**II. Roll Call Timothy Keiderling**

President - John Chalmers - present  
President Elect - Jon Carnahan - present  
Past President - James de Haseth - present  
Treasurer - Paul Bourassa - present  
Secretary - Tim Keiderling - present  
Newsletter Editor - David Butcher - present  
Local and Technical Section Affairs Coordinator - David Heaps present  
Membership Coordinator - Gloria Story present  
Web Editor - Steve Bialkowski - present  
Journal Editor in Chief - Joel Harris - present  
Student Representative - Michelle Meighan - present  
Parliamentarian - Jessica Jarman - present  
Executive Director - Bonnie Saylor - present  
Journal Editor - Paul Farnsworth - present  
A quorum was present

**III. Approval of Minutes from March 2, 2008 Executive Committee meeting**

Jim de Haseth made a motion to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Paul Bourassa and approved.

**IV. Executive Committee Reports**

A. President - Attached  
B. Secretary - Attached  
C. Treasurer - Attached  
D. Executive Director - Attached  
E. Journal Editor - Attached  
F. Newsletter Editor - Attached  
G. Web Editor - Attached  
H. Membership Coordinator - Attached  
I. Student Representative - Attached  
Acceptance Moved by Paul Bourassa and seconded Jim de Haseth, Approved

**V. National SAS Committee Reports**

A. Awards - Attached  
B. Constitution and Bylaws - Attached  
C. Local and Technical Section Affairs - Presented at Meeting  
D. Nominating - No Report  
E. Publications - Attached  
F. Publicity - Attached  
G. Tour Speaker - Attached  
H. Meggers Award - Attached  
I. Strock Award - Attached  
J. Lippincott Award - Attached  
K. Tellers - Attached  
L. Fellows - Attached  
M. Long Range Planning - No Report

Acceptance Moved by Paul Bourassa and seconded Jim deHaseth, Approved

#### VI. Delegate Reports

A. FACSS Report - Attached

B. Chemical Heritage Report - Presented at Meeting

Acceptance Moved Paul Bourassa and seconded Jim de Haseth, Approved

#### VII. Unfinished Business

##### A. Applied Spectroscopy Advertising Updates - Ed MacMillan

Ed talked about his experience of 1 year on job. The supplement has made money, and brought back some advertisers as well as new people. Overall revenue is up, but he expressed concern over the economy at the present time. Advertisers need to see traffic, so we need to encourage our membership to contact those who advertise with us. Ingenta has been a problem—it went dark for a month in July and did not contact him. Customer service did not contact him, and the restart was slow and irregular. No action was taken to make up for this on their part. He expressed embarrassment to try to sell online advertising using Ingenta, but lack of response has led to a breakdown. On-line should be bigger portion of budget, so some companies do not do print ads. He suggests our website is a problem—emphasis should be on changing items, news. The redirect to Ingenta loses our people to another site. Including capability of downloading papers on our own site was suggested.

Ed advocates putting ads on newsletters so people access news and see ads. Linking to it has the virtue of avoiding filters and providing a venue for clickable ads. This would require some redesign, and Dave would need some help to set it up. Discussion ensued of the best way to modify the Web for advertising and compared to Journal site. Suggestion was made to include Ed in the Web Site redesign. It was also suggested that we forward spectroscopy oriented ads we get (i.e. spam) to Ed so that he might follow up. Journal ads are different from trade publications, since they are subscribed to, and are lower cost—the trick is keep subscriptions up. Suggestion was made that we periodically put a list of top downloads on the site, to draw in readers. Committee discussed general comments and felt that Ingenta relationship works in some ways but has difficulties in others that are worth thinking about. Real problems associated with switching were discussed. Joel suggests we host a Table of Contents with links to papers, then include ads, which could be updated regularly, to get traffic. This issue delegated to Web site committee for suggested action.

##### B. Online Journal -- Paul Farnsworth

Report was made of increased traffic, OSA Infobase is becoming larger, but access is erratic month to month. Most use is for US users by a large margin. Back issues still have impact. It can be a potential problem for ads on electronic version.

##### C. Web Page -- All

Jim de Haseth requested new quotes on update for "Ruby on Rails" programmed site, capable to be dynamically updated, (from High Groove or Atlantic Dominion). He suggested that we stick with old ones which are estimates, and that other companies did not fit our needs well. He suggests we need a person who will run this site with some programming ability and willingness. Steve raised question of hosting, pointed out that this opens many account options which need to be negotiated, suggested that costs escalate with Ruby on Rails and that it is technically complicated. He concluded that getting a person to do it will be a problem. Jim suggests that the system will get SAS more flexibility. John points out the need to get started.

Suggestions were made that we need a budget line to establish and a

continuing budget to maintain it, which were broadly supported. A motion was made by Jon Carnahan that Jim move on starting this contract at a level up to \$12000 (with High Groove) and have a continuing budget line of \$5000 for maintenance. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

##### D. Sections -- John Chalmers

John brought a suggestion for forming a UK regional section. Comments were made about the lack of information to help potential sections form. Dave Heaps suggests we need a model form to start student chapters, which he is assembling, and that something similar could be done here. First a Constitution/Bylaws of the organization are needed, providing a model could help develop them. Discussion was general that we could supply models for all needed issues, but that the form was of use for creating a structure, even though the section is viewed as a trial effort. The enthusiasm in this group was felt worth encouraging. Caroline Rogers was viewed as a prime contact.

Move that formation of a UK regional section be supported when the Bylaws are amended to encompass it and when the UK section provides a Constitution to the SAS office. Paul Bourassa made a motion that Jim de Haseth seconded. The motion passed.

##### E. FACSS -- All

Jon discussed the idea, from the FACSS Planning group, of setting up a permanent rotation, with a selection of regular sites moving about the country. Reno was recommended 2011 (biggest consideration seemed to be based on hotel price), Raleigh for 2010, and continue this cycle on 3-4 year basis, if it works. Concern over getting locations that fit the model of FACSS was broadly discussed. The meeting is seeking to grow and is floating various ideas. Sincere questions were raised as to how realistic this growth concept is given FACSS's recent history of loss of size.

Pittcon has now given SAS some support, Joel suggests we rethink what our national meeting would be, and consider Pittcon instead of FACSS. Dave pointed out that the Governing Board did not support this in the past, due to their being tied up in business aspects at Pittcon, but there was general concern that this switch was a viable idea to float again. A model might be the ACS Analytical Division moving to PittCon for a Spring meeting. Surplus funds from Memphis was not all a result of the meeting, since Paul stated there was a rebate from the site due to moving the date.

##### F. FACSS Site Selection -- Mike Carrabba

Mike reported to the Committee about FACSS Site as follows: Sierra Resort is offering frozen prices for 2011 and/or 2012 and 2014, exceptional pricing. Kansas City has good dates, also offering 2012, avoiding holidays. Suggestions for setting a rotation. Other west coast locations—California too high (prices for rooms, food, and guarantees of dates), Portland going up, problem of finding hotel and Convention Center close by. Salt Lake City previously was too high for rooms. Reno was viewed as most affordable for a west coast location—note it is drivable from Bay area.

Midwest: St. Louis viewed as more expensive, and not very flexible or welcoming. Kansas City is offering access to downtown areas in a package. After Mike's visit, John summarized that the issue is Reno or Kansas City for 2011, a recommendation was made later under New Business.

Next issue discussed was the FACSS surplus. Their bylaws suggest that profit must be used to back up the loss of one full meeting (Emergency Fund), which is set at \$300K. It appears there will be a surplus over this goal of ~\$100K. A disbursement procedure was

discussed, this is affected by how members marked their membership-reduced registration, and it was felt by the committee that this will not work in a fair way at present. The bylaws need to be revision to offer a definitive method for disbursement.

Much discussion was made of fairness of disbursement to society, and an alternate plan to reduce registration was discussed as a way of directly targeting those who come to the meeting. People involved in FACSS felt that it would not have a big effect, but that disbursement to the SAS could be used to grow the meeting. Discussion then moved to find a way to use the surplus to build the meeting by improving support of symposia and perhaps reducing registration.

Motion was made to suspend the Bylaw regarding Surplus temporarily and not to disperse until Bylaws were rewritten with a goal of developing a new method of handling the FACSS surplus to be formulated by Pittcon 2009. The motion was made by Paul Bourassa, seconded by Jon Carnahan, and passed unanimously.

Ideas were proposed for forwarding recommendations to FACSS ideas for growing the meeting starting with Louisville, 2009. Some of the money could be directly transferred to the Program Chairman to support symposia. Societies could be offered opportunities to sponsor symposia by offering support, with the money remaining with FACSS until used. Results of the symposia would be audited for effectiveness.

**F. LinkedIn Fred LaPlant.** Fred proposed the development of a SAS LinkedIn group. Members may opt-in to join this group.

#### **G. SAS Day at FACSS -- Gloria Story**

Members only events for Louisville FACSS meeting at Louisville were discussed. Suggestion was made of a brownbag lunch with tables for members who sign in having specific members/mentors/fellows for networking. After the SAS day, this leads into the poster session. This will move the EC meeting to Saturday. Then after lunch, could be session(s) on topics of particular interest—question of which topics.

The following topics were discussed: Sustainability, nano-tech applications, quality by design, forensic applications (FBI connection), LIBS (find a way to grow atomic at FACSS), Homeland Security impact on Science and academia, Litigation (Witness and IP protection), Careers (recruiter—inside scoop), Environment (e.g.—new toxins, BPA). Should SAS seek a sponsor to cover the lunch to encourage attendees as member benefit? A motion by TAK was made for SAS to commit up to \$10,000 from reserve funds to support SAS day at FACSS 2009.

as an experimental activity. It was seconded by Jim de Haseth) and was passed.

[Despite support noted above, the nature of the day was changed later – TAK.]

#### **H. OSA Membership Proposal Joel Harris**

Joel discussed the proposal to have joint OSA-SAS membership. The conditions of the early negotiations seems to have changed and now appear to be an effort of OSA to take over the handling of SAS membership. Additionally, the plan would cost SAS a lot in terms of funds, unless new memberships increased substantially. The new plan was not accepted, but interest was maintained in finding an equitable plan for joint memberships. Several details were discussed and concerns about long range plans were vented. It was moved by Jim de Haseth OSA-SAS joint membership issue be passed to the membership committee for action, and an attempt be made to negotiate an agreement that would be fair to both societies. It was seconded by TAK and passed.

**I. Web Editor position.** This position is currently held by Steve Bialkowski, whose term has come up for reappointment. While

interested in continuing, Steve expressed a concern that maybe a new person should take it on with the introduction of commercial software. The Committee discussed the appointment and skills needed. Jim made a motion to offer to Steve for a one-year transitional appointment as Web Editor. It was seconded by Jon and passed.

**J. Student Chapter.** David Heaps presented a template for a Student Chapter Constitution, and Letter of Intent. Jon suggested to open the Chapter to multiple institutions or a region. Suggestions for modifying it were made. Funds will be managed by the National SAS in the same way finances for a local Chapter is managed. The question was raised about minimum size, general agreement that was 5, and certifying interest and an advisor. A motion was made by Jim to close unfinished. It was seconded by TAK and passed

#### **VIII. New Business**

**K. Budget Review and Approval – Paul Bourassa.** Items in the budget were discussed, Joel pointed out transition costs for the Journal editor position needed to be increased. Questions about paying for the Web improvement and the SAS Day at FACSS Louisville 2009 were discussed, issue of taking from reserve or adding to the budget were considered. It was moved by Paul and seconded by Jim to accept the budget as presented and modified. The motion passed. It was moved by Paul and seconded by Jim to accept audit report. The motion passed.

**L. Constitution & Bylaws Approval -- John Chalmers.** Discussion was made of how to encompass student chapters. These changes will need to be introduced in a new revision to be discussed at PittCon. Jim moved to recommend to the Governing Board the changes by the Constitutional and Bylaws Committee. Jon seconded the motion, which passed.

**M. Student Chapters.** A motion was made by Jim that David Heaps proceed with formation of Provisional Student Chapters (and seeking status as a student activity on campus) and formulate the necessary changes in the Constitution and Bylaws to seek formalization of these Chapters within SAS. TAK seconded the motion, which passed.

#### **N. FACSS Site Selection Vote -- All**

Site selection for 2011 was recommended to the Governing board. Jon made a motion in support of a rotation of meeting sites on 3 or 4 year basis. Jim seconded the motion which passed. Jim moved that Gov Bd recommend to FACSS to consider Salt Lake City as well as Reno for 2011. TAK seconded the motion which passed.

Point of Information.-- Jon

**O. Comments – John** made parting comments as President. Pittcon's presence is improving, and getting support for it. He offered congratulations to Fred LaPlant as election as President Elect. He also thanked Joel and Paul for Editorship, even though a bit early. He suggested that Tour Speaker reports be combined. He also thanked Jim for his service to society.

#### **Executive Director's Report**

##### **March 2009**

##### **Membership**

Final 2008 Numbers: 1791

Membership Breakdown USA 1547 International 244

Total New Members for 2008 284 Total Student Members 231

Total Not Renewed for 2008 274

Registered for Online Journal 605

Total Enrolled in a Local Section 781

Total Enrolled in a Technical Section 808

Total Paid for Extra Section 150

Total Joined Print and Online 1613

Total Joined Online Only 178

Online Only USA 122 International 56

**Current 2009 Numbers:**

(This time last year was 1331)  
 Membership Breakdown 1420  
 USA 1223 International 197  
 Total New Members for 2009 36  
 Total Student Members 164  
 Total Not Renewed for 2009 423  
 Members in Rolling Membership 369  
 Total Joined Print and Online 1291  
 Total Joined Online Only 172  
 Online Only USA 129 International 43  
 Registered for Online Journal 394  
 Total Enrolled in a Local Section 527  
 Total Enrolled in a Technical Section 514  
 Total Paid for Extra Section 133

**Subscriptions**

Final 2008 Numbers  
 2008 913  
 Subscriber Breakdown USA 567 International 346  
 Total New Subscribers for 2008 76  
 Registered for Online Journal 476  
 OSA 2008 Numbers 389  
 Current 2009 Numbers  
 2009 577  
 Subscriber Breakdown USA 380 International 197  
 This time last year our subscriber numbers were at 602

**Members and Subscribers**

Membership was up 134 members this year. While the number of new members we received in 2008 was lower than in the past, the number of non-renewed members was lower. Our current year numbers are higher than the same time last year which hopefully will continue and lead to a good year. Our subscriber numbers in 2008 were 90 over 2007 numbers. This can be attributed to our arrangement with OSA.

**Finances**

Our audit is scheduled for the week of March 30th.

**Member Event at FACSS**

We had a great response to our initial request for interest in the Louisville/Churchill Downs event during FACSS. We are limiting the number of attendees to 100. A contract has been signed and a deposit paid.

**PITTCON Symposia**

We have two symposia scheduled for PITTCON this year and have secured two organizers for next year – Larry Nafie and Paul Farnsworth.

**Final Word**

As everyone is aware, our dear friend and colleague Barbara Stull passed away this year. Her warm smile and wonderful heart will be missed. May she rest in peace.

**LIPPINCOTT AWARD  
 PITTCON 2009**

Michael D. Fayer received his Ph.D. in chemistry from the U.C. Berkeley and joined the Stanford Chemistry Department in 1974. He is currently the David Mulvane Ehrsam and Edward Curtis Franklin Professor of Chemistry. He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences and won the E. Bright Wilson Award for Spectroscopy in 2007. He won the Earl K. Plyler Prize for Molecular Spectroscopy in

2000 and was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1999. This year's award is presented by OSA.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**Paul Bourassa  
 March, 2009**

	2008 Actual	2008 Budget	\$ Over Budget
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Focal Point Book	\$134	\$500	(366)
Member Dues	\$120,924	\$115,000	(5,294)
Journal Income	\$760,471	\$635,000	\$125,471
Chapter Income	\$0	\$500	(500)
General Contributions	\$24,168	\$4,500	\$19,668
Investment Income	\$16,193	\$28,000	(\$11,807)
Miscellaneous Income	\$2,938	\$2,000	(\$938)
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$924,829</b>	<b>\$785,500</b>	<b>\$139,329</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Salaries	\$161,833	\$153,000	\$8,833
Payroll Taxes	\$12,467	\$13,000	(\$533)
Personnel Benefits	\$876	\$2,000	(\$1,124)
Executive Committee	\$39,635	\$25,000	\$14,635
Governing Board	\$1,424	\$1,300	(\$124)
Membership Committee	\$429	\$200	(\$229)
Other Committees	\$1,045	\$2,000	(\$955)
Journal	\$464,495	\$400,000	\$64,495
Newsletter	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
Internet Services	\$3,030	\$2,500	\$530
Member Services	\$21,575	\$15,000	\$6,571
Awards	\$40,667	\$33,000	\$7,667
Sections	\$25,583	\$18,000	\$7,583
Conferences	\$10,037	\$8,000	\$2,033
Member Acquisition/Retention	\$27,715	\$15,000	12,715
Society Office	\$79,581	\$90,000	(\$10,419)
Financing Expenses	\$4,907	\$5,000	(\$93)
Depreciation Expenses	\$6,782	\$1,500	\$5,282
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$903,078</b>	<b>\$785,500</b>	<b>\$117,578</b>
<b>NET ORDINARY INCOME</b>	<b>\$21,750</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$21,750</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME/EXPENSE</b>			
Chapter Distribution Add Back	(\$10,313)	(\$12,500)	\$2,187
Total Other Expenses	(\$10,313)	(\$12,500)	\$2,187
Net Other Income	\$10,313	\$12,500	(\$2,187)
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$32,063</b>	<b>\$12,500</b>	<b>\$19,563</b>

**REPORT TO SAS EXECUTIVE AND PUBLICATION COMMITTEES  
 JOEL M. HARRIS, JOURNAL EDITOR  
 FEBRUARY 11, 2009**

*Applied Spectroscopy* has run smoothly since our meetings in October. In the year just completed, the journal published 1 accelerated paper, 174 regular articles, 14 spectroscopic technique papers, 12 Notes, and 6 Focal-Point articles. The number of manuscripts received for review was essentially equivalent to last year, as was the number of

the number of published papers. The rejection rate for *Applied Spectroscopy* last year was 44%, a figure that is consistent with top quality journals. Comparisons with previous year statistics are included in the attached table. The number of Focal Point articles published returned to a respectable level of six, due in part to our featuring several of the SAS 50th Anniversary Symposium Lectures at PittCon as Focal Point articles (several more articles from this invitation are expected to be published). Speakers from this year's SAS symposia at PittCon have also been invited to write up their lectures for the Focal Point series. Suggestions for new topics and authors are always welcome.

The production costs for the journal remain low 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. She provides format-marked manuscripts electronically to Allen Press including equations, so that our papers are effectively typeset by Rebecca. This system allows a short time period between manuscript acceptance and print publication, currently only 7 weeks for regular articles in the journal. This speed places *Applied Spectroscopy* in the category of a rapid-communication journal, even for our regular articles. Accelerated papers can appear in print within 5 weeks after acceptance. Allentrack our electronic manuscript submission, reviewing, and tracking system has also been running well. There are few complaints, and we continue to receive a number of compliments from authors and reviewers alike. Our median response time (from receipt of a manuscript to the first decision communicated to the authors) currently stands at 41 days.

Our initiative for cooperative publication with the Optical Society of America (bundling of our library subscriptions, addition of Applied Spectroscopy to OSA's InfoBase web collection of OSA journals) has been increasing our electronic circulation. In 2008, we totaled 171,764 full-text PDF downloads of articles from *Applied Spectroscopy* through InfoBase. This number exceeded the 48,370 fulltext article downloads that were provided through Ingenta last year. OSA is more than tripling the electronic distribution of our content. This increased readership should improve our impact and citation statistics in the future; it should also bring more manuscript submissions to the journal.

Thanks to the efficient efforts of the Meggers Committee, chaired by Pavel Matousek, the Meggers Award balloting was completed, and the 2008 award paper is "A New Method for the Time- Resolved Analysis of Structure and Orientation: Polarization Modulation Infrared Structural Absorbance Spectroscopy" by Yongri Liang, Damien Mauran, Robert E. Prud'homme, and Christian Pellerin. The paper appeared in the September 2008 issue of *Applied Spectroscopy* (Volume 62, Number 9, pages 941-947) and will be featured in a symposium at FACSS this fall.

The Journal Office will transition to the new Editor-in-Chief, Peter Griffiths, on July 1. Our web-based manuscript submission and review system, hosted by Allen Press, will make this transition quite easy. The Journal and the Society for Applied Spectroscopy will benefit from Peter's outstanding ideas, energy, and leadership. Paul Farnsworth and I are leaving *Applied Spectroscopy* in good shape, having achieved a number of milestones, including web-based publication, inclusion in Medline, web-hosting of our past issues, joint distribution with the Optical Society of America, and adoption of an on-line article submission and review system. Despite these achievements, there remain challenges for the new Editorial team to address. Attracting top

research and review articles to the journal will benefit from Peter's excellent reputation and connections in the spectroscopy community. The quality and significance of articles in *Applied Spectroscopy* are very high, and our citations should be higher. OSA joint publication should help our 2008 citation rates; in addition, our Table of Contents could be e-mailed monthly by the SAS office to our members and other interested spectroscopists to increase readership. Expanding our coverage into new areas of spectroscopy and fields of application could be promoted with thematic article collections and Focal Point article invitations. I am confident that Peter and his team will address these and many other key goals for the Journal and the Society.

I am deeply honored and grateful for the opportunity to serve the Society for Applied Spectroscopy over the past 12 years as its Journal Editor. It has been such a rewarding experience, both professionally and personally, to work with the SAS Executive and Publications Committees, the SAS office staff, and the Editors and Editorial Board of the *Applied Spectroscopy*.

#### APPLIED SPECTROSCOPY ANNUAL STATISTICS

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Focal Point Articles	4	4	1	4	2	6
Accelerated Articles	7	2	2	2	2	1
Regular Articles	190	190	178	183	175	174
Spectroscopic Techniques	11	6	7	14	11	14
Feature Articles	0	1	2	1	1	12
Notes	22	15	11	4	6	0
Correspondence	2	2	0	2	0	0
Total articles printed	236	220	201	210	197	207
Rejected manuscripts	59	35	50	63	50	65
Returned manuscripts	23	43	30	54	75	90
Total rejected & returned	82	78	80	117	125	155
Papers received for review	315	298	292	321	352	356
Total A-pages	364	362	308	344	292	362
Total manuscript pages	1642	1536	1590	1526	1442	1430

#### NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT DAVID BUTCHER JANUARY 7, 2009

Four issues of the newsletter have been published since our last report, as detailed in the table below. They have focused on the involvement of SAS members in the FBI Anthrax Investigation, the SAS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at FACSS, the Election of Fred LaPlant as President, and the Selection of Peter Griffiths as Editor-in-Chief of *Applied Spectroscopy*.

We have also tried to inform members of the availability and contents of the *Newsletter*. More information about its contents has been provided to the National Office announcing publication. In addition, local and technical section chairs have been encouraged to use the *Newsletter* to announce news, events, and awards.

Ed MacMillan and I have been working to include advertising the Newsletter as an additional source of revenue. We were hoping to include advertising in the January 2009 issue, but the holidays prevented this from happening. Initially, there will be two ads, one under the title and one near the bottom. They will be 728x90 pixels, or approximately the size of the article headings. We have elected to publish 10 issues a year, rather than 9, in order to better serve potential advertisers.

Issue	Topic
September 2008	SAS Members Involvement in FBI Anthrax Investigation
October 2008	SAS Celebrates 50 Years of Service to the Spectroscopy Community
December 2008	Fred LaPlant Elected President of SAS
January 2009	Peter Griffiths selected as Editor-in-Chief of <i>Applied Spectroscopy</i>

**WEB EDITOR'S REPORT**  
**FEBRUARY 5, 2009**  
**STEPHEN BIALKOWSKI**

There is no major change to the web site since the last report. I have been performing routine maintenance of the Society's web site. This includes 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. We are all still waiting to see what the new web site will look like and who the service provider (ISP) will be.

I am working on an updated "Focal Point" CD. I hope it will be ready for Pittcon. This will be the last report using the current web-use tracker. Both our current ISP (Web.com) and the 3rd-party trackers that we have been using are updating software. So we will lose the running access record. Nonetheless, the SAS web has been accessed by "unique users" about 18 times per week over the last four years. There has been a slight upward trend since last April. I have no explanation for this. About two-thirds of the web site access has been from within the United States (61%). This is followed by Asia and then Europe. The major Asian countries accessing the SAS site are Japan (5.1%), Iran (1.7%), China (1.3%), Taiwan (1.2%), and India (0.9%). The main European countries are UK (2.9%), Germany (2.6%), France (1.5%) and Netherlands (0.9%). Our biggest Middle East access is from Iran (1.6%) followed by Saudi Arabia (0.8%).

Our internet service provider changed software around the time of 2008 FACSS meeting. This caused the SAS web site to become unstable. Many of the features, comments, searching, etc. were not working. It took about two months (end of October through the end of December) of submitting problem reports to the ISP before the problem was fixed. When the problem was "fixed", the web site was essentially wiped out and had to be restored from my local copy. Luckily, the web site was backed up locally in October and there was not much to update.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**  
**MICHELLE MEIGHAN**  
**WINTER 2009**

The SAS continues to support students by promoting student activities. SAS encourages interaction among members and the dissemination

of ideas through a plethora of means, such as research presentations, networking opportunities, and interactive discussions. These opportunities help students reach their full potential and prepare them for after graduation.

This past fall at the FACSS in Reno, NV, SAS hosted several events for students. On Sunday evening, the SAS held a poster session for students to present their work, and awards were given to the most outstanding posters. In addition, Sabic Innovative Plastics conducted a brown bag lunch and career-development session for students to discuss issues pertaining to finding a job. Lastly, SAS also organized a mock casino night for its student members. Blackjack and roulette tables were set up, and dealers were present to help teach students the rules of the game. Students were able to meet new students from not only other universities, but from around the world, as student members from Quebec and Australia attended.

To continue with the tradition of planning student networking events at Pittcon, this year SAS is hosting a student event at a local pizza parlor (Exchequer). Students will be able to learn more about SAS as well as network with colleagues.

Finally, I wanted to report on the development of SAS Student Chapters. Many students at Arizona State University (ASU) were excited about starting a Student Chapter there, and the first meeting of the group resulted in several exciting ideas for events and activities. The ASU chapter wants to participate in different community outreach programs, but especially giving science demonstrations at local middle schools. Special thanks to David Heaps and all of his hard work in getting the Student Chapters started!

**LOCAL SECTION AFFAIR COMMITTEE REPORT**  
**DAVID A HEAPS, LACEY AVERETT, CAROLINE ROGER AND PAIGE EAGAN**

The main progress over the past six months has been in the area of student chapters. Two universities have completed all requirements to become a student chapter. Those universities are University of Idaho (5Jan2009) and Arizona State University (8 Jan 2009). There are several schools that are starting the process and a report on their status will be given at PITTCON. The other schools are as follows: Brigham Young University; Indiana University; Kangwon National University; Michigan State University; Northern Illinois University; Southern Oregon University; Université de Montréal; University of Delaware; University of Maryland Baltimore County; University of Missouri Kansas City; University of Nevada Reno; University of Puerto Rico; University of South Carolina; University of Utah; and University of Washington.

Some of the struggles that have been reported are the difficulty in getting the minimum number of students and finding the time to get the paper work together. The overall response has been positive to the student chapters. The Local Section Affairs Committee needs to find ways of lowering the energy of activation for the formation of these new chapters. In 2009 we hope to see the formation of three new technical sections in 2D Correlation Spectroscopy, Forensics and LIBS. We are looking to see if we could form any more Regional sections this year and to progress the newly formed UK region. The UK region has held two meetings last year, one of the meetings with an invited speaker.

**MEGGERS AWARD COMMITTEE REPORT**

**JANUARY 2009**

**PAVEL MATOUSEK (CHAIR), ED YEUNG (CHAIR-ELECT), LARRY NAFIE, JOEL HARRIS**

The committee has selected the following paper for the 2009 Meggers Award (selected from among the papers published in Applied Spectroscopy during 2008):

YONGRI LIANG, DAMIEN MAURAN, ROBERT E. PRUD'HOMME,\* and CHRISTIAN PELLERIN\*  
 Department of Chemistry, University of Montreal, Canada  
*"A New Method for the Time-Resolved Analysis of Structure and Orientation: Polarization Modulation Infrared Structural Absorbance Spectroscopy"*  
 pp 941-947 (Issue 9, Volume 62, 2008).

The committee is confident that this paper conforms to the high standards set by previous Meggers Award winners. In addition, the committee wishes to draw the attention of the SAS Executive Committee to the issue of the composition of future Meggers Award Selection Committees. It has been noted that additional inclusion of the 'Editor' of Applied Spectroscopy on the Selection Panel would ensure better representation of the principal spectroscopy areas (the 'Editor' is selected to cover the complementary expert area to that held by the 'Editor-In-Chief'). The committee could still consist of 3 members appointed by the SAS (as at present) ensuring that the Editors of Applied Spectroscopy do not have the deciding voice. The odd number of committee members would also be more appropriate for voting. This committee recommends the implementation of such change.

**MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR'S REPORT  
 GLORIA STORY  
 FEBRUARY 2009**

A lot has happened since my August report. First, our 50th celebration at FACSS 2008 was wonderful. It seemed to me that everyone made an effort to be there! We celebrated with our famous wine and cheese event, but also with powerful symposia and student events. Our governing board meeting was lively with discussion; members and delegates were enthusiastic about where we've been and where we plan to go. FACSS went out of their way to celebrate too, providing an anniversary cake to share at the gala. Thanks to all involved.

Our society membership grew at the FACSS exhibit opening, thanks to Mike Carrabba manning the microphone and all our wonderful supporting vendors. Forty-nine new student memberships were supported by BioTools, Horiba Jobin Yvon Inc., Innovative Photonics, Meinhard Glass Products, Mike and Mary Carrabba, Renishaw, Inc., and Spectroscopy Magazine. Thank you! Thirty scientists also joined the society that evening.

Our chair-elect, Fred LaPlant, established our latest member benefit, a SAS members-only group within the cyber space world of "LinkedIn". LinkedIn is a web-based professional network of over 34 million people in 200 countries and territories. Our group is managed by Fred and me; only we can admit members to the group. As of this writing, there are 187 members "linked-in" and 5 of these members joined our society because of this networking group. Contact Fred or me if you'd like to learn more.

The membership committee met during FACSS 2008 on Tuesday, September 30th (12:00 to 1:30 PM, Reno Grand Sierra, McKinley Room); those in attendance were Michelle Meighan, Mike Carrabba, Pavel Matousek, Bonnie Saylor, John Chalmers, Jon Carnahan, Joel Harris, David Heaps, Debbie Bradshaw, and Gloria Story. The agenda was established by the Executive Committee: 1) to flesh out ideas for our newest member-only benefit – a Sunday event during FACSS; and 2) to discuss the proposal from OSA on a joint membership option.

**Sunday SAS Day event:** Initially the thought was to establish a session of seminars on a topic of interest...for example, the environment or sustainability. However, that idea was quickly vetoed simply due to the fact that we had several days of great seminars to look forward to already. Since networking is considered by our members as one of our greatest benefits, after the *Journal* of course, we decided a social event was a better idea. Debbie Bradshaw came prepared with 7 venues in Louisville to discuss. Mike Carrabba, who had already visited Louisville for his FACSS long-range planning duties, recommended a few more. The romance of Churchill Downs, the home of the Kentucky Derby, won out as an ideal place to socialize and network. Bonnie, Debbie, and I agreed to finalize the plans, hooking up with the program committee for Louisville: Curt Marcott, Jessica Jarman, and Becky Dittmar. This will be a free, members-only event with bus transportation from the hotel, food, drink, and horse racing. Contact the office (office@s-a-s.org) for more information.

**SAS/OSA Joint Membership Proposal:** In 2007, SAS and OSA began co-marketing. OSA members saw advertising for SAS and *Applied Spectroscopy* in their literature and websites and vice versa and SAS members received free *Optics & Photonics News*. OSA proposed joint memberships to help increase membership for both societies and share the costs. The latest version of the proposal from OSA didn't appear very equitable and control of the venture seemed a bit too heavy on the OSA side. The committee felt that the latest proposal could impact our autonomy. It was decided that the membership committee would recommend to the SAS executive committee not to accept the current version of the OSA proposal.

**ONLINE JOURNAL REPORT  
 PITTCON 2009, PREPARED FEBRUARY 17, 2009  
 PAUL B. FARNSWORTH, EDITOR**

**Online Activity**

The numbers of full text downloads of Applied Spectroscopy articles from both Ingenta and OSA Infobases are summarized in figure 1. Pay-per view activity is summarized in figure 2, and the top ten downloads from the two online providers are listed in table 1.

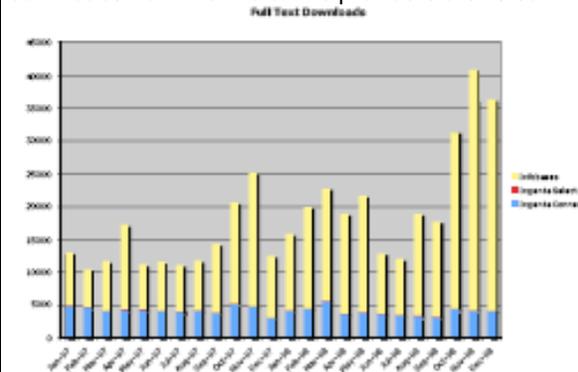


Figure 1. Full text downloads, 2007-2008

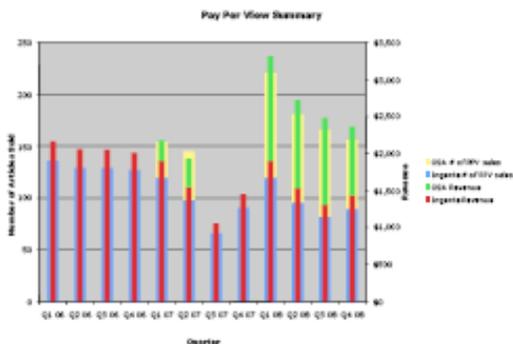


Figure 2. PPV activity 2007-2

Top Downloads, Ingenta Jan. 2007 – Dec. 2008		
Title	Issue	# of downloads
A Review of the Theory and Application of Coherent Anti-Stokes Raman Spectroscopy (CARS)	1977 #4	431
Single Molecule Raman Scattering	2006 #12	295
Surface-Enhanced Raman Spectroscopy in Single Living Cells Using Gold Nanoparticles	2002 #2	256
Generalized Two-Dimensional Correlation Method Applicable to Infrared, Raman, and Other Types of Spectroscopy	1993 #9	226
Two-Dimensional Infrared (2D IR) Spectroscopy: Theory and Applications	1990 #4	223
Surface Plasmon Resonance Imaging as a Tool to Monitor Biomolecular Interactions in an Array Based Format	2003 #11	214
Noninvasive Raman Spectroscopy of Human Tissue In Vivo	2006 #7	203
Chemical Imaging of Latent Fingerprint Residues	2007 #5	192
Quantitative Analysis Using Raman Spectrometry	2003 #1	189
Standoff Detection of High Explosive Materials at 50 Meters in Ambient Light Conditions Using a Small Raman Instrument	2005 #6	184

Table 1. Top ten downloads from Ingenta

Taken at face value, the download statistics are impressive, especially those from OSA. A few back-of-the-envelope calculations help put the numbers in perspective. Our fifty-year archive includes about 5000 papers. The 172,000 downloads from OSA in 2008 correspond to an average of 34 downloads for each of the papers in the archive. A typical issue of the journal contains 16-17 papers. The downloads in November from OSA alone correspond to 2300 downloads of all of the papers in a single issue.

There are some reasons to be skeptical of the OSA numbers. We have no clear explanation for the sudden rise in traffic in the fourth quarter of 2008. Furthermore, OSA gave us some numbers on the top ten downloads for 2008 that are mathematically incompatible with overall download data plotted in fig. 1. The number provided for the number of downloads for the top paper was 14, less than the average value of 34 for the entire archive cited in the forgoing paragraph. I am working with Scott Dineen from OSA to identify the source of the

problem. Until the issue is resolved, I recommend that the OSA numbers be taken with a grain of salt.

Pay-per-view traffic continues to net the society between \$2000 and \$3000 per quarter. Though not large, the amount is certainly a welcome addition to the SAS budget.

The list of the top ten downloads presented in table 1 suggests the possibility that Applied Spectroscopy papers were used as part of a course or workshop on Raman spectroscopy. It seems otherwise unlikely that a twenty two year old paper would suddenly attract the interest of four hundred readers. An example of the usage patterns of the top institutional user supports the idea that there was a flurry of activity tied to a single event. That institution downloaded 2623 papers in 2007-2008. In one month, there were 1864 downloads. During the remaining 23 months, the average was 32 downloads with a maximum of 47. Unfortunately, I am unable to see which papers were downloaded during the exceptional month.

One would hope that the large increases in electronic circulation that have accompanied the OSA agreement would be followed after an appropriate time lag by increases in citation numbers. The next ISI report, due out this summer, will be a good indicator of the effect that the OSA agreement is having on the scientific impact of the journal.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT  
 JIM DE HASETH**

The Nominating Committee recommends the following for President-Elect and Secretary-Elect:  
 President-Elect: Curtis A. Marcott.  
 Secretary-Elect: Katherine Bakeev and Augustus Way Fountain

**ADVERTISING SALES REPORT  
 ED MACMILLAN  
 MARCH 2009**

2008 was a banner year for Applied Spectroscopy. Here are some of the highlights:

- Increase in revenue by 75% over 2007, from \$97,035 to \$170,090
- Actual sales were Net \$170,090 and Gross \$198,272
- 11 new advertisers, these included:
  - ABB Analytic (FS)
  - BioTools
  - CDI Pharma
  - Fibre Photonics
  - Glass Expansion
  - Ocean Optics (FS)
  - Ondax (FS)
  - Opotek (FS)
  - Princeton
  - RoMack (FS)
  - RPMC
  - Starna Cells
- Results from the Reader Survey disseminated to advertisers leading to better appreciation of this market and more advertisers
- Returning advertisers but new for 09 included:
  - Thermo Fisher
  - Perkin Elmer (FS)
  - Varian (FS)
- First ever FACSS 50th Anniversary Supplement (FS) which included:

- Most advertisers of any single issue of year (22)
- Most revenue of any single issue of year (\$21,096)
- Widely accepted by advertisers and FACSS attendees as a useful vehicle and greatly informative
- A memorable history of the society and leading lights and was widely praised as well written and entertaining
- Excellent online (Ingenta Connect) effort including:
  - 4 banner ad campaigns
  - 9 month commitment from Ocean Optics
  - 12 months from Pike Technologies
  - 4 month from Enwave
  - 12 months from Horiba (as part of their value ad)

2009 is looking to be another good year. We introduced advertising on the Spectrum eNewsletter and have one booked advertiser BioTools. However I would caution we are in the middle of extraordinary financial turmoil that has slowed growth in Applied Spectroscopy this year by at least 20% and could accelerate towards the latter part of the year. My feeling is 2009 will increase slightly with the expectation we will finish in the \$200,000 range. I would caution 2010 is going to be hard to read and will hopefully know more when we meet at FACSS in October. In closing I am cautiously optimistic for 2009 and unclear for 2010.

**REPORT OF SAS AWARDS COMMITTEE  
PITTCON 2009  
JULIAN TYSON, NANCY JESTEL AND PETER GRIFFITHS**

The committee nominates candidates as follows:  
For Emeritus Membership: Jack Fuchs and Robert McDonald  
For Distinguished Service Awards: Joel Harris and Paul Farnsworth  
For Honorary Membership: Geraldine Richmond.

**FINAL LIST OF CANDIDATES FOR SAS FELLOWS AS  
SUGGESTED BY THE FELLOWS COMMITTEE  
WOLFGANG KIEFER, ALAN MARSHALL, CHARLES WILKINS  
PITTCON 2009**

Blades, Michael  
Chalmers, John  
De Haseth, James  
Hamaguchi, Hiro-o  
Everall, Neil  
Garrell, Robin  
Lytle, Fred  
Popp, Juergen  
Hercules, Dave  
Ramsey Mike  
Thomas, George  
Wirth, Mary

**CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS COMMITTEE REPORT  
PITTCON 2009  
JAMES A. DE HASETH, JOHN CARNAHAN, CARRIE LENDON**

At the FACSS meeting in Reno, NV, the Executive Committee and the Governing Board accepted the proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society. The changes make participation for groups outside the US and Canada easier as we wish to be an international society. In addition some changes were made to the dues structure that has led to a simplification. These proposed changes will be voted on by the membership this year. If accepted by the membership the proposed changes will be finalized. For reference, below is a version

of the Constitution and Bylaws with proposed changes compiled by John Chalmers and Bonnie Saylor; the changes are in red or have a strikethrough.

**ARTICLE XVI - AWARDS**  
**SECTION 3. APPLIED SPECTROSCOPY WILLIAM F. MEGGERS AWARD.** The selection committee consists of ~~four (4)~~ **five (5)** members total, the chair, a chair-elect, the Journal Editor-in-Chief, **the Journal Editor**, and one (1) other member. The chair-elect is appointed for a two (2) year term (as chair-elect and as chair). Each year one other member is appointed for a one (1) year term. There is no past-chair.

The chair of the committee shall notify in writing the Society for Applied Spectroscopy President, Secretary, and Executive Director of the name(s) of the committee's selection by February 15 of the year following the year in which the paper appeared in *Applied Spectroscopy*.

This award is given to the author(s) of the outstanding paper appearing in *Applied Spectroscopy*. It is awarded at the Society for Applied Spectroscopy award ceremony held at the fall meeting following the calendar year of publication and shall consist of a scroll and an honorarium of \$500.00. The honorarium shall be shared equally in the case where the paper has more than one author. Financial assistance may be provided by the Society for Applied Spectroscopy. Arrangements must be approved by the Executive Director.

**SECTION 6. ~~SAS~~ THE **BARBARA STULL** GRADUATE AND **SAS** UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT AWARD.**

These awards are given to up to 2 graduate and up to 2 undergraduate students in recognition of outstanding research in the area of spectroscopy. Any full-time student doing research in the field of spectroscopy shall be eligible for the award. The recipient shall be selected by the Awards Committee as described in Article XIV, Section 6 of the Bylaws. The award shall consist of a plaque or scroll and an expense-paid trip to FACSS to accept the award. The Executive Director shall make all arrangements regarding travel, hotel, and registration expenses of the awardee. The Executive Director shall also inform the awardee of any limitations in the amount of money which may be spent for meals and miscellaneous expenses.

**SAS PUBLICITY COMMITTEE REPORT  
7 JANUARY 2009 – PREPARED BY DAVID BUTCHER**

The Publicity Committee did not meet at FACSS because the non-EC members were not in attendance. However, we believe the Society is continuing to develop innovative strategies to publicize its activities including:

- (1) The Development of a Members-Only Event. We anticipate the event planned for the Louisville FACSS will encourage FACSS attendees to join the society.
- (2) We believe the continued development of the FACSS website will be a very effective way to publicize the Society.

**REPORT FOR THE 2009 SAS TOUR SPEAKER PROGRAM  
CHRIS SNIVELY  
3/1/09**

My goals for the 2009 Program were to gather a list of speakers together that encompassed a wide range of subject areas, so that

every section could choose a speaker that met the interests of their constituents. Another goal was to include speakers from industry, academia, and government, as well as to include some younger people in the mix.

A list of 10 speakers was generated and sent to the local sections. From the results of the local section selections, the diversity of speakers worked well, since each section was able to get its top 1st, 2nd, or 3rd choice of speaker.

The local sections that expressed interest in participating in the Tour Speaker Program include: Baltimore-Washington, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Minnesota, New England, New York, Niagara Frontier, Piedmont, and St. Louis.

As of 3/1/09, the final list of speakers, affiliations, and topics is as follows:

Larry Carr, Brookhaven National Lab, Synchrotron IR spectroscopy  
 Rich Dluhy, University of Georgia, SERS biosensing  
 Franz Geiger, Northwestern University, Making "sense" of DNA  
 Jochen Lauterbach, University of Delaware, IR spectroscopy of heterogeneous catalysts  
 Christian Pellerin, Université de Montréal, IR spectroscopy of polymers  
 Don Pivonka, AstraZeneca, Vibrational spectroscopy applied to pharmaceuticals  
 Jon Schoonover, Los Alamos National Lab, Time resolved FTIR of polymers and inorganic materials  
 Garth Simpson, Purdue University, Nonlinear spectroscopy

Two speakers were unable to participate in the 2009 Program, but expressed interest in being involved in subsequent years' programs.

Additionally, the Piedmont section wanted to have a joint meeting with the local ACS section, and we were able to arrange this by having Prof. Rich Dluhy speak on 2/25. This was a reported success, with approximately 50 people attending the talk.

There are still three sections that have not moved on to the scheduling phase due to either the pull-out of the speakers or the sections not getting back to me with scheduling information. I anticipate that these last kinks can be worked out and that we will be able to provide all of the interested local sections with speakers.

#### **MINUTES OF THE SAS PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**LARRY NAFIE, CHAIR**  
**SEPTEMBER 29, 2008**

The Publications Committee of the Society of Applied Spectroscopy met on Monday, September 29, 2008, in the McKinley Room of the Grand Sierra Resort hotel at 12:00 PM. A lunch was provided. Members present were Curt Marcott, Past Chair, Larry Nafie, Present Chair, Bruce Chase, Chair-Elect (conferenced in by phone), John Chalmers, President of SAS, David Butcher, Newsletter Editor, Steve Bialkowski, Web Editor, Joel Harris, *Applied Spectroscopy* Editor-in-Chief, Paul Farnsworth, *Applied Spectroscopy* Editor. Also present were Jim de Haseth, Chair of the *ad hoc* committee to develop a new SAS web site, Bonnie Saylor, SAS Executive Director, Ed MacMillan, Representatives from Allen Press, and Jenny Jensen and Rebecca Airmet from the Journal office. Rohit Bargava, Member 2008-2009 was absent.

#### **Journal**

Journal Editors Joel Harris and Paul Farnsworth reported that *Applied Spectroscopy* continues to run smoothly. Production costs are staying below budget and the time from acceptance to publication for regular articles is currently only 2 months and accelerated articles 5 weeks, thanks in large part to the efforts of Rebecca Airmet. This speed puts *Applied Spectroscopy* in a category as a rapid publication journal.

The cooperative publication arrangements with the Optical Society of America became effect in January 2007. In the calendar year 2007 there were 68,248 full-text PDF downloads through the OSA Infobase, versus 51,427 through Ingenta the year before, more than doubling the electronic distribution of our content. Through July of 2008 the number of OSA-hosted downloads was 65,699 and is on track to nearly double the 2007 total.

The quality and impact of the journal remains strong with a Citation Impact Factor of 1.902, up slightly from last year. The journal continues to lead all journals in the Instruments and Instrumentation category with its citation half-life of 8.1 years.

Included in the report was the announcement by Joel Harris that he will step down at the end of his current 3-year term after 12 years as Editor-in-Chief. The new Editor-in-Chief will take over operations July 1, 2009.

#### **Newsletter**

Four issues of the Newsletter were published since the last report to this committee. They were March 2008 reporting on 50th Anniversary of SAS at Pittcon, April/May 2008 reporting on SAS Pittcon activities, Summer 2008, highlight the FACS in Reno, Nevada, and August 2008 with more coverage of the upcoming FACSS conference in Reno. The Newsletter has also published two posters presented at Pittcon on the history and impact of SAS as part of its 50th Anniversary celebration.

#### **Web Editor Report**

Steve Bialkowski reported that there has been no major change in the web site since his last report beyond routine maintenance and updating. A new Focal Point CD has been made that does not mirror the SAS web site. The web site is accessed on an average of 19 times per month. The latest percentages of access by world-wide region were reported with North America leading with 64% followed by Asia at 15% and Europe at 13%. Unknown is 5% while South America, Africa, Oceania and Central America are in the 1% range.

#### **Upgrading the Society Web Site**

An *ad hoc* web-site subcommittee of the SAS Executive Committee consisting of Becky Dittmar, Carrie Lendon, Gloria Story, Bonnie Saylor, Dave Butcher, Stephen Bialkowski and Jim de Haseth has been investigating various approaches to web site upgrade. Jim reported on recent the continued progress of the committee. The desired upgrade will involve a new homepage and supporting page designs set up for easy content updating and dynamic access to all member databases, including member searches and member updating of personal content information. Bids have been received from two contract management firms. The preferred format for the new web site is called Ruby on Rails, where Rails is a general web-site software program and Ruby is a particular embodiment of Rails.

#### **STROCK AWARD REPORT** **SPRING 2009**

**GARY HIEFTJE, SCOTT GOODE, BILL LYNCH**

The 2008-9 Lester Strock Award Committee has come to a unanimous decision to recommend Prof. Nicolo Omenetto, of the University of Florida, for the 2009 Award. Prof. Omenetto is being recognized for his path-breaking work in the field of Laser-Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy (LIBS). A sampling of his key publications in this area over the past several years is given below.

Rodriguez-Celis, E. M.; Gornushkin, I. B.; Heitmann, U. M.; Almira, J. R.; Smith, B. W.; Winefordner, J. D.; Omenetto, N.. Laser induced breakdown spectroscopy as a tool for discrimination of glass for forensic applications. *Analytical and Bioanalytical Chemistry* (2008), 391(5), 1961-1968.

Gornushkin, I. B.; Shabanov, S. V.; Omenetto, N.; Winefordner, J. D. Nonisothermal asymmetric expansion of laser induced plasmas into vacuum. *Journal of Applied Physics* (2006), 100(7), 073304/1-073304/10.

Lopez-Moreno, C.; Amponsah-Manager, K.; Smith, B. W.; Gornushkin, I. B.; Omenetto, N.; Palanco, S.; Laserna, J. J.; Winefordner, J. D. Quantitative analysis of low-alloy steel by microchip laser induced breakdown spectroscopy. *Journal of Analytical Atomic Spectrometry* (2005), 20(6), 552-556.

Amponsah-Manager, K.; Omenetto, N.; Smith, B. W.; Gornushkin, I. B.; Winefordner, J. D. Microchip laser ablation of metals: investigation of the ablation process in view of its application to laser-induced breakdown spectroscopy. *Journal of Analytical Atomic Spectrometry* (2005), 20(6), 544-551.

**Report to SAS on FACSS meetings attended during the FACSS meeting at Reno, 27 September-2 October, 2008.**  
**John Chalmers, SAS President**

Overall, this FACSS meeting was considered both a technical and social success by the majority of the delegates and exhibitors, albeit some had reservations about the use of essentially a casino-based hotel venue. Dissatisfaction focused mostly on the 'darkness' of the bedrooms, and lack of obvious routes to 'escape' the venue; both probably designed in so as not to distract punters!

During the FACSS meeting in Reno, the following FACSS organizational meetings were attended:

1. FACSS Long Range Planning (LRP) Committee, Saturday 27 September 13:00-16:30.

2. FACSS Planning/Budget Committee meetings, Wednesday 1 October:

- a. Planning/Budget Committee (2009), 09:00-10:00
- b. Planning/Budget meeting Louisville (2009), 10:00-11:00,
- c. Planning/Budget meeting Raleigh (2010), 11:00-12:00.
- d. Budget & Finance Committee Meeting, 13:00-16:00.

3. FACSS Governing Board (GB) Meeting, Thursday 2 October, 06:30-10:30.

**1. Some outcomes/comments/notes from the LRP Committee meeting:**

1. Membership: FACSS is looking closely at expanding its member societies/interest groups. One strategy is to look at encouraging new "embryonic" groupings and "up and coming" areas for which FACSS and its meetings could provide either a permanent or temporary 'home', e.g., the surface plasma resonance interest group. The 2D-COS meeting could possibly become associated with/feature within the FACSS meeting every other year when it is scheduled to be held in the U.S.A. Optical activity (vibrational circular dichroism/Raman optical activity (VCD/ROA)) seems to have found an unofficial home

within the FACSS meeting. FACSS would welcome seeing and should encourage more electrochemistry and chromatography sessions to be featured in its meeting. Other 'potentials' should be passed on to the FACSS LRP or FACSS Governing Board (GB) Chair. The point was made that Forensics could be another key area to focus on, especially since Chris Hassel, a long time FACSS attendee and ex-committee member was now FBI Lab. Director.

2. Long-term growth: The LRP discussed FACSS ambitions to grow, with a goal of reaching ca. 2500 delegates; its current position is ca. 850 delegates! Maximum past attendance at a FACSS meeting has been between 1400-1600 delegates. There was some discussion about whether it should be perhaps more about evolution in preference to growth, that is staying relevant and pertinent to the current issues and trends, rather than growth for growth's sake.

3. Theme for 2009: Curt Marcott, the program chair for 2009, wished to invoke as a theme for the 2009 meeting that of "Sustainability", which has become key within industry; Curt named a couple of keynote plenary speakers to this theme; they were: William McDonough (U.S.A.) & Michael Braungart (Germany), authors of *Cradle to Cradle/Remaking the Way We Make Things*, see, [http://www.mcdonough.com/cradle\\_to\\_cradle.htm](http://www.mcdonough.com/cradle_to_cradle.htm)

4. Development: It was proposed that the GB Chair of the next meeting should be granted a budget to aid him/her to develop the conference, by 'recruiting' new interest groups to participate in the meeting.

5. Site Selection: Jim Rydzak will take over from Mike Carrabba as the Site Selection Committee chair for 2009. An offer from the Reno hotel to offer the same room rate in 2011 and also 2014 or 2015 as for the 2008 current meeting of \$109.00 prompted a discussion on the advantages of a site rotation strategy, which clearly has advantages in negotiations. The Reno offer provides a very good foundation for rotation, when considered on a purely financial basis. The advance room reservation for 2008 with the Reno hotel was easily filled; and the hotel 'likes' FACSS as a client. The Reno site (the Grand Sierra Resort) offers good potential for expansion of the FACSS meeting. It was proposed that FACSS accept Reno as the venue for its 2011 meeting, and considers 2014 too, but with an opt-out clause, if necessary, due to dissatisfaction with the 2011 meeting. A decision was necessary, if possible, by the end of the week to aid FACSS' negotiations with the Reno venue. A vote was taken later in the week at the GB meeting, see below.

Kansas City (Hyatt hotel) was considered the preferred location for the 2012 meeting; but the venue offered little potential for future expansion of the meeting. The Houston Hyatt hotel, also considered as a possible for 2012, proved to be an inadequate venue, which lacked the needs of the FACSS meeting. The Raleigh convention centre, the site for the 2010 FACSS meeting, offered good potential for expansion so could also be considered as a 'rotation' site. Site rotation was recognized as increasing FACSS' negotiating power. The rotation could be on a 3- or 4-year basis, involving sites on the west and east coast of the U.S.A., with one in the 'middle', and one 'wild card', which would allow venues in, for example, Canada, Puerto Rico.

6. Renaming of the Conference: As noted in my report of the FACSS meetings held in PittCon in March 2008, there has been some considerable discussion about renaming/rebranding of the meeting to better reflect/market the breadth of its content, since to many who

have not attended the meeting "FACSS" explains little of the meeting's purpose and content, and is considered cumbersome. Many suggestions were discussed, but no consensus was reached as to an obvious favourite. It was agreed however that if a name change is invoked, this should be followed by the phrase "brought to you by FACSS", thereby retaining connection with previous meetings. A competition (a form) for name suggestions was put out to delegates attending the meeting.

7. Surplus: As noted in my report of the FACSS planning meetings held during the PittCon 2008 meeting, a consensus opinion from the FACSS' member societies was needed on how to handle 'distribution' of the surplus funds made from the FACSS 2007 Memphis meeting. (The FACSS Surplus Funds Policy Bylaw of the Operations Manual for FACSS, which essentially proved to be unworkable, was included in my last FACSS report to the SAS EC). This surplus, ca. \$109,000, was generated following from the FACSS meeting. A recommendation, see Appendix to this report, for presentation to the FACSS GB was drafted by a mix of LRP committee members and society members. The SAS proportion of this surplus is anticipated at being between \$20,000 and \$30,000.

**2. Notes from the Planning/Budget Committee Meetings:**

Reno (2008):

1. FACSS is anticipating a good financial return (surplus) for this meeting.

2. Registrations at 1 October were ca. 821.

3. There has been some very positive feedback from the students, particularly as they were housed in the same hotel as the regular delegates and exhibitors.

4. An unexpected additional cost of \$10,000 arose from the cost of A/V labor.

5. The GB Chair strongly urged that FACSS markets its "value for money" as a conference, since its registration fees include attendance at many social events, coffee, water, etc., and the additional costs of sustenance to delegates can be very low, unlike at other meetings, such as PittCon and IFPAC.

Louisville (2009):

1. For 2009 (and 2010) it was recommended that the exhibitor fee be reduced to below the (psychological barrier) \$2,000 fee; fees of \$1,795 for early-bird and \$1,950 for full fee were agreed.

2. The Wednesday social event, as with Reno, would be retained as an all inclusive event and included within the meeting registration fee. The event will likely have a Kentucky Derby-like theme. It would be a mix of networking, social, and refreshments.

3. SAS plans to hold a SAS members-only social event on the Sunday afternoon; FACSS and SAS would work together to ensure that this did not conflict with the FACSS program.

4. It was agreed that the Program Committee should be encouraged to promote diversity, and reduce multiple talks by the same speakers.

5. Consideration and aim should be directed towards ensuring all Awardees receive a complementary registration, and indeed increasing the number of complementary registration offered to each session organizer/chair.

6. The workshop registration fee was considered to be too high for students. For Reno, it was \$150 for ½ day. As a long-term investment for the meeting, it was agreed that for Louisville (and probably Raleigh) the workshop fees to students would be set at: \$50 for ½ day; \$75 for 1 day; and, \$95 for 2 days. (At Reno, these were: \$150, \$300, and \$600, respectively; only 1 or 2 students attended any of the workshops!).

Raleigh (2010):

1. A preliminary budget was set, based on the Reno (2008) meeting; this would be finalized during the LRP meeting at Pittcon (2009).

2. The Wednesday event was again expected to be an all-inclusive event.

3. If successful in 2009, a SAS members-only event will be repeated. Finance/Budget:

1. Much of the discussion was around where and how FACSS reserve funds should be invested, particularly with the current financial crisis around the world.

2. It was agreed that funds should not be left exposed; in fact, just before the FACSS meeting, \$400,000 had, for safety in view of the 'Financial Crisis', been withdrawn from a Goldman-Sachs investment.

3. It was agreed that reserve funds would be invested (in CD, certified deposits) so as: not to be left exposed; at guaranteed rates; and, more widely spread.

**3. Notes from the GB Meeting:**

(This does not include items already covered above, unless additional facts are relevant.)

The SAS-voting delegates attending this meeting were: Jon Carnahan, John Chalmers, Jim de Haseth, and Gloria Story.

1. The development money (see 1.4 above) for the GB Chair to use should be \$20,000. 'New groups' would be offered support over a 3-year period, and then hopefully they would become 'registered' as a FACSS unit.

2. The anticipated operating surplus from this meeting (Reno 2008) was \$25,000.

3. The budget for plenary speakers should be increased from \$4,000 to \$10,000 for Louisville (2009). \$2,500 was budgeted for the Mann Award, to bring it in line with the other Award symposia.

4. Students should be surveyed in respect of the workshops and their content, relevance, and cost.

5. FACSS member societies (including SAS) are united in that the 'surplus funds' (ex Memphis 2007 meeting) should remain within and FACSS Treasury and used to enhance the FACSS meeting, but they have differing opinions as to how this should be achieved, and each wishes to have a say in how their proportion is acted upon, see Appendix.

6. The Reno (2008) meeting had 50x paying exhibitors, including 3x from member societies.

7. Site Selection: Since some confusion existed around what proposal had been put forward by the FACSS Site Selection Committee and what vote was required, particularly with us (the SAS delegates), it

was decided to postpone the vote to be an electronic (email) vote to be completed by 1 November 2008.

Because of the favorable room rates offered by the Reno hotel for 2011 and 2014, and to aid negotiations, the actual vote among eligible voting delegates was to decide: (i) between Reno and Kansas City for 2011; (ii) to approve Kansas City for 2012; and, (iii) to approve Reno (with a get-out clause) for 2014.

8. The Reno (2008) meeting had 672 advance registrations. The final number of delegates was 835, which was slightly down from the Memphis (2007) meeting, probably because of a clash with a Jewish holiday, and two other meetings within the U.S.A. and one meeting in Germany.

9. The SAM (Scientific Association Management, Inc.) contract will be renewed for the next 3 years with a 3% cost increase each year. SAM is contracted by FACSS to provide meeting support and services). The next FACSS GB meeting will take place in the afternoon of Tuesday 10 March 2009 during the PittCon 2009 meeting in Chicago.

**Appendix:**

Prior to the FACSS meeting, and during this FACSS meeting, the ad hoc committee of members of representative societies produced the following for consideration by the FACSS GB:

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**Report of the Adhoc Discussions on surplus dispersal**, led by Diane Parry as directed by the Governing Board (GB) at the PittCon 2008 meeting:

The member societies seem united in applying the surplus funds to enhance the future FACSS Conference, but vary widely in their recommendations for the best FACSS use for these funds. Some societies want the funds used directly by FACSS, others want to be in a position to direct the use of the funds for FACSS.

It is the opinion of the Adhoc Committee, after study of the FACSS bylaws, that the surplus money cannot be disbursed according to the existing bylaws, because of the incompleteness of records in regards to the society membership(s) of paid attendees for the 2007 conference, and the previous five years of conferences. It is also the opinion of the committee that the bylaws need to be rewritten, with respect to surplus distribution, since it will be at least five years in the future before the conditions of the current bylaws can be met.

The committee recommends the following:

**Vote to Suspend the Surplus Funds Policy section of the bylaws.**

**Vote to re-write the bylaws as follows:**

B. If a distribution is voted pursuant to the Bylaws of the Governing Board, this surplus shall be distributed directly to member societies as follows, if a distribution is voted against, pursuant to the Bylaws by the Governing Board, this surplus will be held in the FACSS treasury, for use to promote the FACSS conference, according to each society's direction on the FACSS application of their specific share, as determined as follows:

C. One hundred percent (100%), or another proportion not less than 100%, of the total cost of the most recently held Conference, determined by a 2/3 vote of the Governing Board, shall remain in the FACSS treasury for use in financing future Conferences, the governance of the organization, or other programs voted by the Board. The remaining proportion shall be distributed according to the following formula:

a) Fifty percent (50%), of the distributable amount shall be divided equally among member organizations of FACSS, either for their direct use, or for their use in promoting FACSS.

b) Fifty percent (50%) of the distributable amount shall be divided among the member organizations in the proportions in which they paid to sponsor a FACSS Symposia, Awards Session, or Student Sessions at the Conference earning the surplus. One point shall be awarded for each member society sponsored event, and in the case where two organizations share sponsorship, each will be awarded 1 point. The points will be totalled across all society sponsored sessions, and each society will be awarded their percentage share of this 50% of the distributable amount.

c) Any funds a society directs to be used to promote FACSS will be held in the FACSS Treasury, and use of these funds, as directed by the society, will be reported by the FACSS Treasurer.

d) Once their share is determined, any member society interested in having their share of the funds used for FACSS, as directed by the FACSS Long Range Planning Committee, can so elect, relieving them of the need that will otherwise exist to provide guidance to the Treasurer on disbursement of their share of the funds, either for their own uses, or for their use to promote FACSS.

Section 3Cb is intended to replace the paid attendance measure in the original bylaws, with a measure that will both encourage and reward member society sponsorship of the conference. These contributions can be retroactively determined for the 2007 conference.

**The GB Vote NOT to disburse the 2007 Surplus Funds:** In which case the funds will be held in the FACSS Treasury, eliminating concerns about the non-profit status of these funds.

For future discussion by the LRP and Adhoc Surplus Committee led by Jim Rydzak:

The list of funding ideas collected so far include:

- Use the funds to attract more high-profile speakers,
- Invest in advertising, reduce registration fees (either in total, or selectively for students or people early in their career)
- Invest in symposia, award symposia/awards (e.g., directly related to specific societies),
- Support invited speaker travel/increase Program comps. at the discretion of the Program Chair,
- Invest in future FACSS communications, e.g. recorded sessions for use electronically or on-line as some conferences have done, net meeting sessions, etc.

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The majority vote at the GB was for the surplus funds to be dealt with (disbursed) as stated in points a) and b) above.

The SAS 'share' of the 50% of the surplus will be based on: The SAS Poster Session on Sunday Night When SAS knows its 'share' then the EC or SAS-FACSS-symposia organizer(s) will need to decide how to advise FACSS Treasury as to how it's share should be used, e.g., additional complementary registrations, additional symposium, etc.

**PRELIMINARY REPORT FOR THE 2009 SAS TOUR SPEAKER PROGRAM**  
**CHRIS SNIVELY**  
**MARCH 1, 2009**

My goals for the 2009 Program were to gather a list of speakers together that encompassed a wide range of subject areas, so that every section could choose a speaker that met the interests of their constituents. Another goal was to include speakers from industry, academia, and government, as well as to include some younger people in the mix.

A list of 10 speakers was generated and sent to the local sections. From the results of the local section selections, the diversity of speakers worked well, since each section was able to get its top 1st, 2nd, or 3rd choice of speaker.

The local sections that expressed interest in participating in the Tour Speaker Program include: Baltimore-Washington, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Minnesota, New England, New York, Niagara Frontier, Piedmont, and St. Louis. As of 3/1/09, the final list of speakers, affiliations, and topics is as follows:

Larry Carr, Brookhaven National Lab, Synchrotron IR spectroscopy  
Rich Dluhy, University of Georgia, SERS biosensing  
Franz Geiger, Northwestern University, Making "sense" of DNA  
Jochen Lauterbach, University of Delaware, IR spectroscopy of heterogeneous catalysts  
Christian Pellerin, Université de Montréal, IR spectroscopy of polymers  
Don Pivonka, AstraZeneca, Vibrational spectroscopy applied to pharmaceuticals  
Jon Schoonover, Los Alamos National Lab, Time resolved FTIR of polymers and inorganic materials  
Garth Simpson, Purdue University, Nonlinear spectroscopy

Two speakers were unable to participate in the 2009 Program, but expressed interest in being involved in subsequent years' programs. Additionally, the Piedmont section wanted to have a joint meeting with the local ACS section, and we were able to arrange this by having Prof. Rich Dluhy speak on 2/25. This was a reported success, with approximately 50 people attending the talk.

There are still three sections that have not moved on to the scheduling phase due to either the pull-out of the speakers or the sections not getting back to me with scheduling information. I anticipate that these last kinks can be worked out and that we will be able to provide all of the interested local sections with speakers.