

# SAS SPECTRUM eNEWS



**Happy 60th Anniversary SAS!**  
**Look for special events over the course of the coming year!**

## **SAS President's Message 2017**

During this past year, I have had the honor to serve as President of SAS and have met and worked with many members of the Society who share the passion of belonging to SAS that so many of us have. SAS relies heavily on volunteers who give their time and effort to make the Society what it is. Many thanks to all of you!

Our journal, *Applied Spectroscopy*, continues to provide high quality scientific publications and is the premier benefit for members. The recent move to SAGE as a publisher is bringing broader exposure and a more streamlined and user-friendly website. This year, we welcomed Sergei Kazarian as Editor stepping in for the retiring Peter Griffiths. Mike Blades, Editor-in-Chief, has put in a tremendous effort to reduce the backlog of manuscripts and dramatically improved time to publication for submissions.

SAS continues to offer many member benefits, yet we are still struggling with maintaining and growing our membership base. While declining membership is not unique to SAS, we are striving to offer more benefits and stay relevant in the fast-moving internet age. This year, we have launched two new initiatives; the certification program and Measure Venture, a crowd-funding site that focuses on measurement sciences. Both of these efforts, while still in their infancy, will provide benefits to professionals and innovators looking to develop their ideas.

In order to further expand our outreach and improve our digital presence, we added a marketing chair position and are upgrading the website. Andrew Whitley is bringing his years of professional marketing experience to SAS and I'm sure will bring about positive changes. The website is currently being updated and will be upgraded to enable functionality across mobile platforms and we plan to add more content.

This year is the 60th Anniversary of SAS and plans are in the works to make it a big celebration throughout the year and especially at our annual meeting, SciX 2018 in Atlanta.

I have had a great experience working with everyone and know that the Society will be in very good hands with Mike Carrabba as President.

Regards,  
Greg Klunder  
SAS President 2017



## Spectroscopists Helping Spectroscopists

In the December issue of the newsletter, Professor Sam Hernandez-Rivera described the devastation to the Spectroscopy facilities at the University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez. The Society for Applied Spectroscopy and the Coblenz Society, along with other organizations and publications, have taken up the call. On December 21, 2017, we launched an all-volunteer charitable network to aid ongoing research interrupted by the infrastructure devastation of Hurricane Maria on September 20, 2017. The network will connect researchers and their students to resources across the United States to prevent long-term disruption to education and scientific and engineering economic resources in Puerto Rico.

Using donations, Spectroscopists Helping Spectroscopists will fund students from Puerto Rico traveling to functioning laboratories to complete planned experiments. Access to research equipment will help keep those research projects on track at minimal cost. The network will also connect our Puerto Rican colleagues to other private and public resources to cope with this disaster. We are not providing disaster relief; we are enabling self-help.

More information, links to the financial donation site, the contacts to donate time and/or equipment or lab space can be found at <http://www.coblenz.org/Membership/spectroscopists-helping-spectroscopists>.

Please be part of the team effort that assures that good science continues in Puerto Rico! Visit SAS crowdfunding site: <https://crowdfund.s-a-s.org/>.

*Contributed by Ellen Miseo ([ellen.miseo@gmail.com](mailto:ellen.miseo@gmail.com)) and Frederick Haibach ([fhaibach@confluentscience.com](mailto:fhaibach@confluentscience.com))*

## Make a Public Lab Spectrometer

A friend found this interesting link which I would like to share with you if it has not already caught your attention: <https://publiclab.org/wiki/economist>

*Contributed by Shawn (Xiaoyun) Chen ([xchen4@dow.com](mailto:xchen4@dow.com))*

## NY/NJ SAS February Meeting

Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018

Time: Networking: 6:00–6:30 PM  
Talk: 6:30–7:30  
Questions for speaker and additional networking: 7:30–8:00

Speaker: Emil Ciurczak

Title: Spectroscopic Hyperspectral Chemical Imaging

Location: Science Building Room S-11  
Fairleigh Dickinson University  
175 Park Avenue  
Florham Park, NJ 07932

*Contributed by Howard Mark ([hmark@nearinfrared.com](mailto:hmark@nearinfrared.com))*

## Fellowship Gives Grad Students Extended Access to DOE Research Facilities

Beginning with the 2018–2019 academic year, graduate students in several science areas important to national security, including UV-Vis/X-ray spectroscopy, will have the opportunity for extended work and research at one of several Department of Energy (DOE) facilities as part of a new program, the DOE National Nuclear Security Administration Laboratory Residency Graduate Fellowship (DOE NNSA LRGF). Fellows will serve at least two 12-week residencies and can pursue their thesis research during their stays. Benefits include a stipend, full tuition and fees and more, renewable for up to four years. Visit <https://www.krellinst.org/lrgf/> for information and to apply.

Contributed by Tom O'Donnell ([odonnell@krellinst.org](mailto:odonnell@krellinst.org))

## Obituary for Earl Luther Wehry, Jr.

Earl Luther Wehry, Jr., Emeritus Professor in Chemistry at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, passed away on October 16, 2017. Earl was born in Reading, Pennsylvania, on February 13, 1941, received his B.S. in Chemistry from Juniata College in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, in 1962, and a PhD in chemistry from Purdue University in 1965. He was an Assistant Professor of Chemistry at Indiana University from 1965-1970. He then joined the faculty at UT in 1970, becoming a full professor in 1977. He retired in 1996 after 26 years of loyal and productive service to the department of chemistry, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the University. During his career at UT, he mentored 19 students to PhD completion and five students to MS degrees. He was recognized for his research contributions in Analytical Chemistry with a Chancellor's award for Research and Creative Achievement and Science Alliance Awards throughout their existence. He published more than 110 research papers in refereed journals as well as several monographs associated with various spectrometric methods of analysis. He was known nationally as an expert in phosphorescence and fluorescence spectroscopy.

Earl was a keen sports enthusiast, and he was also extraordinarily knowledgeable about classical music and jazz. He was an avid reader and meticulous collector, not only of music and sports memorabilia, but of historic train schedules and roadmaps. He pursued his hobbies as ardently as his science, having at various times driven 1000 miles to spot trains in Grand Island, Nebraska, and a similar distance for a mid-winter Society for Applied Spectroscopy speaking tour in the northernmost part of the Midwest. He will be missed and fondly remembered by friends and colleagues. His remains will be interred in the family gravesite (alongside his parents and brother) at Laureldale Cemetery in Reading, Pennsylvania, on January 13, 2018. A gathering of friends and alumni will take place on January 20 at the UT Chemistry Department. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the University of Tennessee Chemistry Department, the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra, or Juniata College.

Contributed by Kelsey Cook, [kcook@utk.edu](mailto:kcook@utk.edu)

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

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