



of Western New York



Double Bond

The Newsletter of the Western New York Section of the American Chemical Society

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ELECTION OF 2014 LOCAL SECTION OFFICERS

This issue of the *Double Bond* includes information on selection of officers with terms beginning in Jan. 2014.

Cast Your Ballot Electronically! Go to:

<http://kwiksveys.com/s.asp?sid=gxse5hfsbacab3s223970>

Please complete the survey by November 15, 2013.

Candidate Biographies can be found on p. 2.

You may still cast your vote using the ballot below:

Officers of the Western New York Section of the American Chemical Society for 2013

Chair (vote for 1)	Sarbajit Banerjee
Chair-Elect (vote for 1)	Jeremy L. Steinbacher
Vice-Chair (vote for 1)	Andrew S. Murkin
Councilor (vote for 1)	Peter Schaber
Treasurer (vote for 1)	Andrew J. Poss
Member-at-Large (vote for 1)	Sarah E. Evans Dominic L. Ventura

Forward your completed ballot to: greggt@canisius.edu

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OUTREACH VOLUNTEER AWARD TO DAVID NALEWAJEK

Congratulations to Dr. David Nalewajek, the 2013 Outreach Volunteer of the Year for the Western New York Local Section. This award was established by the ACS Committee on Community Activities to acknowledge the contributions of the many local section members who work to promote chemistry to the general public.

Dr. Nalewajek, a Senior Principal Scientist at Honeywell International, has for many years overseen the various Local Section activities as Chair of the National Chemistry Week committee. As chair, his philosophy is Lead by Example, and he has brought his Honeywell outreach team to numerous schools to perform chemistry demonstrations and to judge competitions. Their mission is simple, but critical for the region and nation: getting more students excited about chemistry.

In 2012, Nalewajek taught students at St. Mary's School for the Deaf to perform chemistry demonstrations. This was so well received, that he returned to St. Mary's and introduced "CSI-The Case of the Unsigned Letter", a science mystery case study to the students. In 2012 alone, he returned to St. Mary's 9 times presenting training classes so that upper-level students could, in turn, bring this exciting program to other students--both hearing and hearing-impaired.

Nalewajek is a past Chair of the Western New York Local Section, received a ChemLuminary Award for outreach in 2012, and was the 2003 winner of the Jacob F. Schoellkopf Medal.

Dr. Nalewajek received his Outreach Volunteer of the Year Certificate on September 17, at the Schoellkopf Award Banquet. On behalf of the ACS Committee on Community Activities, the WNYACS section celebrates Dr. Nalewajek's extraordinary outreach efforts.



LOCAL SECTION ELECTIONS

Please cast your ballot using the electronic survey at:

<http://kwiksurveys.com/s.asp?sid=gxse5hfsbacab3s223970>

2014 WNYACS CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

For Chair (2014):

Sarbajit Banerjee is an assistant professor at the University at Buffalo in the Department of Chemistry. His research interests include phase transitions in solid-state materials and electronic structure determination via X-ray absorption spectroscopy. Sarbajit received his undergraduate degree in chemistry from St. Stephen's College, his Ph.D. from SUNY Stony Brook, and started his independent career at the University at Buffalo after a post-doctoral stint at Columbia University where he worked in the group of Irving P. Herman.

He has previously assisted with organizing the WNYACS undergraduate research symposium. He maintains active collaborations with several industrial partners small and large in the WNY area.

For Chair-Elect (2014):

Jeremy L. Steinbacher, assistant professor of chemistry at Canisius College, has teaching interests that include organic chemistry and materials/biomaterials chemistry. His research interests are advanced materials for the treatment of cancer, in particular, particle-based drug-delivery agents, "smart" contrast agents for magnetic resonance imaging, and bio-nanoscience and functional polymers with novel architectures.

Prior to Canisius, Steinbacher was a National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences Post-doctoral Fellow for the Department of Chemistry and Environmental Pathology at the University of Vermont. Steinbacher obtained a doctorate in chemistry and chemical biology and a master's in material science and engineering from Cornell University. He also holds a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Franklin & Marshall College.

For Vice-Chair (2014):

Andrew S. Murkin is an assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry at the University at Buffalo. Bridging multiple disciplines including organic chemistry, biochemistry, and biophysical chemistry, his research is centered on enzyme mechanisms and inhibitor design, with particular emphasis on transition state formation and mimicry. As part of his NSF CAREER award, he is engaged in outreach with middle schools and high schools in the greater Buffalo area.

Murkin received his B.S. in chemistry and biochemistry and his Ph.D. in chemistry at the University of British Columbia. Prior to starting his independent career at the University at Buffalo in 2009, he worked as a postdoctoral researcher in the laboratory of Vern L. Schramm at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

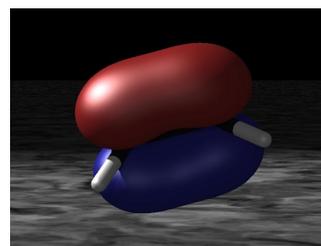
For Councilor (2014-2016):

Peter Schaber is past Chairman and Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry at Canisius College. He received his B.S. in Chemistry from Canisius College in 1975, and his Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1980, under the direction of Dr. Robert D. Beremen. From there he accepted a postdoctoral fellowship at Argonne National Laboratory and conducted research under the direction of Dr. J. J. Katz. Dr. Schaber has published over two-dozen articles on a wide range of topics in synthesis, crystallography and analysis. In his 25 years at Canisius College, he has been successful in securing over \$850,000 in external grants to support curriculum modification, instrument acquisition and chemical research. He has held the position of Science Advisor to the Food and Drug Administration, Buffalo District, and has acted as a consultant to several additional governmental agencies (NASA, Erie County Crime Lab etc.), and local, national and international industrial firms. Dr. Schaber has been an ACS member since 1975 and has held the positions of treasurer, vice-chair, and chair in the WNY Section. Dr. Schaber was the Program Director when the WNYACS won its first national Phoenix Award in 1980 for "Best High School Program" during National Chemistry Week.

For Treasurer (2014-2015):

Andrew J. Poss is a Senior Project Leader at Honeywell International, Inc. He received his BS (1978) and Ph.D. (1984) in organic chemistry from the University of Rochester. He next joined the faculty of the State University of New York at Buffalo as an Assistant Professor of Chemistry. Since 1989, Andy has been employed at Honeywell where he is currently developing new fluorine-based products. He has authored the book entitled *Library Handbook for Organic Chemists* as well as numerous papers, posters and presentations.

(candidate statements continued on next page)



2014 WNYACS CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

(continued from page 1)

For Member-at-Large (2014-2015):

Sarah E. Evans is an assistant professor of Biochemistry at Canisius College. Her teaching interests include biochemistry and bioinorganic chemistry. In her research, Evans uses metal complexes as tools to model biological events, including metal regulatory pathways in bacterial cells. Applications include investigations of the metal- and DNA-binding properties of a vital transcription factor from *Borrelia burgdorferi*, the bacteria that causes Lyme disease.

Evans served as a post-doctoral fellow in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences for the University of Maryland's School of Pharmacy. She obtained a doctorate in chemistry from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the State University of New York College at Geneseo.

Dominic L. Ventura was born in Buffalo and has lived in the Western New York area his entire life. He received his B.S. degree in chemistry from the University at Buffalo in 2004 and his Ph.D. from the same institution under professor Huw M. L. Davies in 2008. Immediately afterwards he joined the faculty at D'Youville College. At D'Youville College he has taught courses in general, organic, and organometallic chemistry as well as other science courses such as astronomy and natural disasters. His research interests include mild synthesis of metallophthalocyanines via new methods as well as using these metal complexes as catalysts in various carbenoid transformations. Together with his undergraduate students, Dr. Ventura has presented his research at several local symposia, including regional ACS conferences.

**70 YEARS AGO IN THE DOUBLE BOND**

The following excerpt appeared in the October, 1943 Double Bond

In the past few months great prominence has been given to one of the oldest methods of preserving food--dehydration, Thus far, it is a difficult method and hard to control. Certainly more work needs to be done before dehydrated foods reach the standards set for them.

The necessity of getting palatable and nourishing food to our armed forces was the prime consideration which brought food dehydration to the fore. Getting the food to them quickly and using a minimum amount of shipping space were only secondary.

According to dictionary definition, dehydration simply is "rendering a product free of water", In the case of food dehydration, it reduces the weight of a product about 75% to 80% and the bulk about 75%.

As to the question of what foods are best dehydrated, opinions vary considerably, However, as far as vegetables are concerned, most agree that the "sacred seven" seem to work best, This list includes white or Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, carrots, beets, rutabagas, cabbage, and onions.

Requirements of foods to be dehydrated are high. The food must be ripe, fresh, nearly perfect in flavor and appearance, and perfectly clean. Special emphasis is given to variety and grade.

Prior to dehydration the product to be used must be washed, blanched (precooking and destroying of enzymes), peeled, and cut. Then it is ready to be dried. This is usually done in two stages: preliminary, where the product is still wet with a large amount of moisture on the surface, and finishing, which is 5/8 of the entire drying period.

There appears to be a marked loss in vitamin content of dehydrated foods and very often a loss of flavor. So far these have not been remedied; and until they come up to par with canned foods, there is little chance that dehydrated food will be used extensively. Economy is nil as far as dehydrated foods are concerned. Costs, however, fluctuate widely due to the varied type of equipment and processes in plants all over the country.

Two other stepping-stones in the dehydration of foods are packaging and storing. These present quite a problem, too, but with all the ardent experimental work being done on dehydration, we should soon have an extremely successful method of preservation.

--Barbara A. Barrow

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