



# of Western New York

# Double Bond

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

Volume 84

November 2012

## ELECTION OF 2013 LOCAL SECTION OFFICERS

This issue of *The Double Bond* includes information on selection of officers with terms beginning in 2013.

**Please return your ballot by November 30, 2012.**

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

**Chair** (vote for 1)

Timothy M. Gregg

**Chair-Elect** (vote for 1)

Sarbajit Banerjee

**Vice-Chair** (vote for 1)

Jeremy L. Steinbacher

**Councilor** (vote for 1)

David Nalewajek

**Secretary** (vote for 1)

Mary O'Sullivan

**Member-at-Large** (vote for 1)

William Sullivan

*Please COPY the ballot text to an email and mark the names of the candidates you wish to vote for.*

*Forward the email to: [stelster@canisius.edu](mailto:stelster@canisius.edu)*

*To vote on paper, print and detach the ballot on this page, mark your votes, and send the ballot to:*

**Alice Steltermann**  
**Dept. of Chemistry and Biochemistry**  
**Canisius College**  
**2001 Main St.**  
**Buffalo, NY 14208**

## BYLAW AMENDMENTS

It has been almost 31 years since the bylaws of the WNY Section have been reviewed for accuracy and consistency with the ACS national charter. Much has changed over the decades. The revised document represents the corrected version of our bylaws, which has been reviewed by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, and now found to be in compliance with all rules and regulations of the ACS national charter.

The revised Bylaws must be presented and voted on by the section membership at one of our regularly scheduled meetings. This announcement is official notice to the membership of the amendment and approval process. At the next general meeting of members of the WNY section, a vote will be conducted asking for acceptance or rejection of the revised bylaws.

The section will hold a general meeting during January, 2013, and details of this meeting will be published in the next edition of this newsletter, and posted on the website at <http://wny.sites.acs.org>. In the meantime, please read the revised bylaws, which are attached as a pdf file, and are posted on the section website. Questions or comments on the document should be made to David Nalewajek, Councilor, by email at:

[David.Nalewajek@Honeywell.com](mailto:David.Nalewajek@Honeywell.com)

## LOCAL SECTION OFFICER

## CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

### For Chair:

**Timothy M. Gregg** is an associate professor at Canisius College in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. His interests include organic reaction mechanisms and new methods for organic synthesis. He is currently acting Chair of the WNYACS local section,

has served as the local section newsletter editor for the past 6 years, and maintains the local section website at [wny.sites.acs.org](http://wny.sites.acs.org).

Gregg graduated with a bachelor's degree from Brown University and received his Ph.D. from The University of Arizona, where he worked on organic synthesis methodologies involving cyclopropyl ketones. After a postdoctoral fellowship in the lab of Robert H. Abeles, at Brandeis University, he renewed his interest in 3-membered rings as an NIH postdoctoral fellow and then Research Assistant Professor at the University at Buffalo.

**For Chair-Elect:**

**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 Vice-Chair:**

**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 Councilor:**

**David Nalewajek** is currently a Senior Principal Scientist at Honeywell International (formerly AlliedSignal). He received his B.S. in chemistry from Canisius College in 1974 and his Ph.D. from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1978. His postdoctoral was spent at AT&T Bell Laboratories where he researched the design and synthesis of multidimensional superconductors. His current research interests are directed towards the development of environmentally acceptable CFC replacement molecules. He currently holds 61 U.S. Patents. Dave has been active

in community outreach activities since his return to WNY in 1980, serving as lecturer/demonstrator at the Buffalo Museum of Science and at local elementary schools. Within the WNYACS organization, he has held positions of member-at-large, vice-chair, chair-elect and chair. He has served as councilor for this Section since 1992. In addition, Dave has served three terms as chair of the Schoellkopf committee and was the recipient of the Schoellkopf award in 2003. Dave is currently chair for National Chemistry Week where he has served as chair/co-chair since its inception.

**For Secretary:**

**Mary O'Sullivan** has been the Secretary of the WNYACS for the past 10 years. She is a professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at Canisius College, where she teaches organic chemistry and conducts research aimed at developing novel anti-parasitic agents (specifically, anti-trypanosomal agents). Before moving to Buffalo, Mary was an Associate Professor of Chemistry at Indiana State University.

**For Member-at-Large:**

**William Sullivan** is a lifelong resident of WNY and has lived in Cheektowaga for the past 41 years. He is an analytical chemist with over 31 years experience, and is currently employed in that capacity by Praxair in their R&D group. He has worked for a number of employers, and has been an ACS member for 29 years.

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**AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY  
244<sup>th</sup> ACS NATIONAL MEETING  
PHILADELPHIA, PA  
AUGUST 19-23, 2012  
Councilor Report**

The following summary highlighting topics that were discussed at the Councilors meeting held in conjunction with fall 2012 ACS national meeting. If anyone would like additional clarification on any of these points please contact me as indicated in the signature line.

**Meeting/ Registration Report**

- As of close of business August 22, 2012, the ACS fall national meeting had attracted 13,320 registrants, including 7,817 regular attendees and 3,177 students.
  - On the recommendation of the Committee on Budget and Finance (B&F), the Board VOTED to approve an advance member registration fee of \$370 for national meetings held in 2013.
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### Candidates for President-Elect and Board of Directors

- The candidates for the fall 2012 ACS national election were announced as follows:

#### Candidates for President-Elect, 2013

Dr. Thomas J. Barton, Distinguished Professor, Iowa State University, Ames, IA

Dr. Luis A. Echegoyen, Robert A. Welch Professor, University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, TX

#### Candidates for District I Director, 2013-2015

Dr. Thomas R. Gilbert, Associate Professor, Northeastern University, Boston, MA

Dr. Neil D. Jespersen, Professor of Chemistry, St. John's University, Queens, NY

Members of WNY will be voting for candidates in these two categories.

### New Committee Supported -- Senior Chemists

- The Council VOTED to establish a Joint Board-Council Committee on Senior Chemists whose mission is to enrich the educational, technical, and cultural lives of the ACS Membership by ministering to and employing the talents of senior ACS members by: sharing with ACS members of all ages a rich variety of personal experiences and expertise gained over many years of professional service; fostering interest and participation in the science of chemistry through community outreach, especially in grades K-12; acting as science advisors/ambassadors for the purpose of cultural exchange at home and abroad; providing senior ACS members with challenging, diverse, and enjoyable professional experiences that enable them to contribute to the cultural experiences of their communities; and recommending policies that address issues of interest to senior chemists. The committee is aimed primarily at members over 60 years of age. Next, the Board of Directors must vote on whether to establish the committee.

### Membership Activity

- One of the Society's long-time concerns has been the decline in the number of domestic Regular Members, that is, members paying full dues. The impact of this decline has been offset, as we have reached record membership levels, by increases in the number of international Regular Members, and the 2009 addition of Student Member Undergraduates. While the number of regular domestic members paying less than full dues has decreased from 33,000 to 29,000 in the last five years, this is still significantly more than the number of student members added.

- The Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA) has unveiled six new four-hour workshops, as the ACS Career Pathways series. CEPA trained more than 40 volunteer facilitators and the workshops are now available for regional meetings and local sections.

### Other Society Business

- The 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of National Chemistry Week will be celebrated October 21-27 with the theme, "Nanotechnology – The Smallest BIG Idea in Science!" All local sections are encouraged to participate in NCW and plan an event that will recognize their coordinators.
- The 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Chemists Celebrate Earth Day will be celebrated in 2013. All local sections are encouraged to participate.
- The ACS Leaderships Institute will be held in Dallas, Texas, January 25-27, 2013, for new committee, local section, and division chairs, and other volunteer governance members.
- On the recommendation of the Committee on Grants and Awards, the Board VOTED to approve Society nominations for the Perkin Medal and the National Science Board Public Service Award. The Perkin Medal is the highest honor in American industrial chemistry, and the National Science Board Public Service Award honors individuals and groups that have made substantial contributions increasing public understanding of science and engineering in the US.
- A special discussion item was put on the Council agenda for this meeting. ACS President Bassam Shakhshiri presented and moderated a discussion on "What major efforts should ACS pursue to help alleviate water and other global challenges?" Members of the ACS feel a responsibility as scientists and citizens to help address global challenges facing society in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century to help sustain Earth and its people. These challenges include increasing population growth, limited natural resources, malnutrition, disease, climate change, violence and war, and the denial of basic human rights, including the right to benefit from scientific and technological progress. This discussion focused primarily on the crisis of available water suitable for drinking, agriculture and industry.

Respectfully submitted,

David Nalewajek

Councilor WNYACS

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