



Double Bond

The monthly newsletter of the Western New York Section of the American Chemical Society

Volume 77

December 2005

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS NATIONAL AWARDS

The American Chemical Society Awards Program is one of the means by which the Society meets its obligation "to encourage...the advancement of chemistry in all its branches, the promotion of research in chemical science and industry, [and] the improvement of the qualifications and usefulness of chemists." The continuing excellence of the ACS awards program requires that a number of highly qualified chemistry professionals be nominated and that great care be taken in preparing the nominations.

Nominating Procedure for ACS National Awards

Nominations for 56 national awards administered by the ACS to be presented in 2007 are being solicited.

- Forms for nominations and supporting information, and a detailed description of ACS national awards are available at <http://chemistry.org/awards>.
- Any individual may submit a nomination for an award, unless that individual is a member of the selection committee for the same award. However, selection committee members may submit nominations for other awards.
- Nominations and inquiries concerning awards should be directed, by email, to the Office of the Awards Programs, awards@acs.org.
- The deadline date for all nominating material for 2007 ACS National Awards is February 1, 2006. Earlier transmittal is encouraged.



LOCAL SECTION ELECTIONS

Due to the lateness of the date, a slate of candidates for 2006 local section executive positions is being distributed by email. Please return email ballots to Maria Pacheco (pachecmd@buffalostate.edu) by December 29, 2005 to register your vote. A copy of this ballot may be found on the [WNYACS website](#).

From the Editor...

Season's greetings. This month's newsletter tests out changes in format and distribution with which we will experiment over the next few issues. We are looking at streamlining production while allowing more options for formatting, graphics and linked content.

If you have ideas on electronic formats, print vs. email distribution or the type of content you see in the newsletter, please let me know by phone or email.

If you know someone who does not communicate by email, please pass on a hard copy of this issue of the Double Bond. All issues are also available on the WNYACS website at:

<http://membership.acs.org/W/WNY/bond.html>

The email list this issue has been sent to is the regular ACS roster of the Western NY section. Any additions or updates to address or email information (including opting out of all future email contact) may be made through ACS Member and Subscriber Services at (800) 333-9511 or through the ACS website:

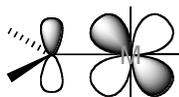
<http://www.chemistry.org/contactus.html>

Thanks,

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CERTIFICATES FOR UNDERGRADUATES

The [ACS Committee on Professional Training](#) (CPT), among many other activities in postsecondary education, administers the ACS approval process for undergraduate programs in chemistry. All graduates of an ACS-approved program who have completed the requirements for certification described in the ACS guidelines are certified annually to the Society by each program chair. Every certified graduate is eligible to receive a certificate from ACS that recognizes that the graduate has completed a bachelor's degree that meets the Society's criteria for professional education and membership. Faculty members and graduates can request certificates from the Office of Professional Training by sending an email to cpt@acs.org. Upon certification, every graduate is eligible for full membership in the ACS by applying online at the website: www.chemistry.org/membership or by contacting Debora Fillinich at d_fillinich@acs.org in the ACS Membership Activities Office.



ACS DIRECTORY OF GRADUATE RESEARCH 2005

The American Chemical Society [ACS Directory of Graduate Research 2005](#) is the most comprehensive source of information on faculty and their research at departments of chemistry, chemical engineering, biochemistry, polymers and materials science, marine science, toxicology, medicinal/pharmaceutical chemistry, and environmental science in the U.S. and Canada. It lists faculty member biographical information, area of specialization, titles of all papers published within the last two years as well as faculty and department contact information. Published in odd-numbered years by the ACS Committee on Professional Training, the 2005 edition of the *Directory* contains current faculty information for the 2005-2006 academic year. The *DGR 2005* (item 39753, US \$89 each) can be ordered from the ACS Office of Society Services or the ACS Online Store. For more information, call 1-800-227-5558 or 1-202-872-4600, or send e-mail to help@acs.org.

NEW for 2005! *DGRweb*, the searchable, online version of the DGR, is now available free of charge at <http://chemistry.org/education/DGRweb>. Also new to

DGRweb 2005 are the upgraded interface and functionality which allow advanced searches for both faculty and institutions. Search for faculty includes specific research area, academic rank, gender, and state, and the search results produce complete contact information for faculty including direct links to faculty email addresses and web pages. Institutional searches provide all departmental contact information along with statistical data on the number of faculty and students in the department and a complete list of faculty active in graduate research. *DGRweb 2005* also includes access to the complete 1997, 1999, 2001, and 2003 databases.

TRAVEL GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR STUDENT AFFILIATES CHAPTERS

The [ACS Student Affiliates](#) (SA) Program is pleased to announce the [2006 National Meeting Travel Grant](#) for active SA chapters. The SA program will offer up to 75 travel grants of \$275 for the spring national meeting to offset travel costs including transportation, registration, lodging, and food.

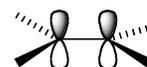
Applications are available on the SA website (chemistry.org/education/saprogram.html), or from the SA Program office.

For grant consideration, a chapter must:

- have at least one paid student affiliate present a research or chapter poster in one of the Division of Chemical Education's undergraduate poster sessions (abstracts submitted to other technical divisions are not eligible);
- be an active Student Affiliates chapter: have submitted an annual report to the SA program at least once in the past three years and have at least six dues-paying national student affiliates in the chapter;
- submit a national meeting travel grant application, a completed undergraduate poster session abstract, and an OASYS abstract identification number to the SA program by January 15, 2006.

Travel grants will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis until the deadline is reached or the specified number of grants has been awarded. For additional information, contact Alicia J. Chambers, Education Associate, at 800-227-5558, ext. 6176, or a_chambers@acs.org.

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WOMEN CHEMISTS COMMITTEE TRAVEL AWARDS AVAILABLE

Eli Lilly & Company is once again sponsoring a program to provide funding for undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral women chemists to travel to scientific meetings in 2006 to present the results of their research. Grants may be applied only for registration, travel, and accommodations, and are restricted to travel to meetings within the United States. Grant funds are limited, but there are some funds set aside for undergraduates. Only U. S. citizens and permanent residents are eligible. Applications should be limited to one per research group. Awards will be given with preference to the following order: (1) any applicant who will be making her first presentation (regardless of format) at a national or major meeting, (2) graduate or postdoctoral applicants who have not presented at a national or major meeting since leaving undergraduate school.



The deadline is February 1, 2006 for receipt of applications for meetings between July 1 and December 31, 2006. For application and more information visit the WCC Web site <http://membership.acs.org/W/WCC/> or write wcc@acs.org. ψ

INNOVATIVE PROJECTS GRANT

The Local Section Activities Committee (LSAC) invites all local sections to submit proposals by Wednesday, March 1, for the first 2006 review cycle to receive an Innovative Projects Grant. These grants support local sections undertaking innovative programs or activities-projects that are either new to the section or creative enhancements to an existing program. In particular, activities that promote local section and division interaction or interaction between multiple local sections are encouraged. Local sections may request funding up to \$3,000, but funding cannot be used for hardware purchases or major equipment, honoraria, stipends, alcoholic beverages, or food (except for snacks). Approved projects will receive funding by June in order for sections to initiate projects in the first half of 2006. Only one project per local section will be funded per fiscal year.

To apply for an Innovative Projects Grant, visit the Office of Local Section Activities website at <http://chemistry.org/localsections> where complete instructions and a template for the brief proposal (limited to 2 pages) are available (just select "Innovative Grants Program" listed under "Improve Your Finances"). The website also includes a link to a list of some previously funded projects to help stimulate your thinking. ψ

THIS MONTH IN CHEMICAL HISTORY

By Harold Goldwhite, California State University, Los Angeles, hgoldwh@calstatela.edu

It sometimes seems as if talent runs in families. Theatrical examples are familiar; the Douglasses, father and son; the Bridges, father and sons; the Redgraves, father and daughters. And there are examples in science too: the Darwin family boasts several generations of distinguished scientists as does the Huxley family.

This month I want to introduce you to a chemist member of an impressive family of American scientists who flourished in the nineteenth century -- the Rogers family. The father, Patrick Kerr Rogers, was born in Ireland, trained in medicine in the U.S., and became Professor of Natural Philosophy and Mathematics at the College of William and Mary. Four boys, of the family's seven children, survived infancy. Robert Empie Rogers, the youngest of these, was born in March 1813. He lost his mother to malaria when he was seven, and his father to the same infection when he was fifteen. His two older brothers, James and William, took charge of his education and helped raise the two younger boys, Robert and Henry. All four Rogers boys had distinguished careers. James followed Robert Hare as Professor of Chemistry at the University of Pennsylvania; William was founder and founding President of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Henry became Head of the Geological Survey of Pennsylvania and then Professor of Geology at Glasgow University in Scotland. But to return to Robert Rogers.

His first job as a railroad surveyor didn't satisfy Robert, and he enrolled in the medical school at the University of Pennsylvania in 1833, working with Robert Hare, the Professor of Chemistry. Rogers' thesis was on blood chemistry and he was graduated M.D. in 1836. For the next six years he worked with brother Henry on the Geological Survey of Pennsylvania mastering the craft of mineral analysis. He was invited to replace a sick teacher at the University of Virginia in 1841 and the following year became Professor of General and Applied Chemistry at that institution. He collaborated with brother William, then holding the Chair of Geology at Virginia, on researches which they published jointly describing the use of potassium dichromate as an oxidizing agent in the preparation of elemental chlorine and in the conversion of alcohol to acetaldehyde. They also used this oxidant in wet analyses of the amount of carbon in natural graphites and in diamonds (!). With brother James, Robert developed analytical methods for metal ores, and compiled a textbook of chemistry based on works published in England by Gregory and Turner.

When James died in 1852 Robert succeeded him at the University of Pennsylvania. After four years as

Professor of Chemistry he was chosen as Dean of the Medical School. During the Civil War Rogers served at a Military Hospital in Philadelphia. In the course of a demonstration of a steam-powered mangle in 1863 Rogers' right hand was crushed and had to be amputated above the wrist. He had a speedy recovery and taught himself to write and to do chemistry with his left hand. His reputation as a chemist and analyst continued to grow. He served as a consultant to the United States Treasury on the refining of precious metals for coinage, and visited mints and assay offices in Philadelphia, New York, and San Francisco. He also consulted for mine owners in the West. In 1877 he moved to the Jefferson Medical College where he taught courses on *material medica* and chemistry until he retired in 1884. He died in Philadelphia later that same year.

A fascinating, but out-of-print, book by one of the pioneers of chemical history in the U.S., namely Edgar Fahs Smith, is *Chemistry in America* published in 1914. It includes biographical material on all four Rogers brothers, plus a detailed 20-item bibliography of Robert Rogers' publications. ψ



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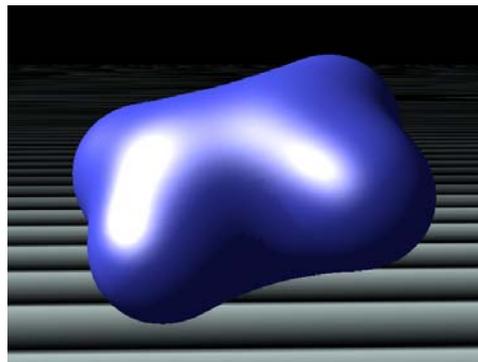
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2006 SCHOELLKOPF AWARD NOMINATIONS

Deadline: January 13, 2006

The Jacob F. Schoellkopf Medal is the oldest award given by a Local Section of the American Chemical Society.

The purpose of the award is to recognize a person who has fostered the objectives or activities of the American Chemical Society. The medalist's contribution might be a discovery pertaining to chemistry, or an invention of a plan, process, or device useful, valuable, or significant in the theory or practice of chemistry, or distinguished service to the Western New York Section or its successor.

Please consider nominating one of your colleagues for this prestigious award. Any nominations received after the deadline date will be considered for the 2007 Award.

This year's Schoellkopf Committee Chair is Joanna Christopher. For further information you may contact Joanna directly by email at joannachristopher@verizon.net.

Please send all nominations for the Schoellkopf Award to:

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