

# ALI "QUOTES"

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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PRINCETON ACS

JAN/FEB 2001

# **Meeting Announcements**

This is the only notice you will receive of the February meeting. Please save it and/or make a note of it in your calendar. Also, please note the change in time. Meeting information can also be found on our web page:

http://www.princeton.edu/~pacs

# **January Monthly Meeting**

Dr. Timothy D. Harris
Principal Scientist
Praelux Inc. Lawrenceville, NJ

Topic: Industrial Capacity Biological Imaging as Input for Pharmacology Informatics

Date: Wednesday, January 24, 2001

Time & Place: 5:30 p.m. Lecture, Room 124
Frick Chemistry Laboratory
Princeton University
6:45 p.m. Dinner at Prospect House

**Abstract:** Fluorescence microscopy is a ubiquitous technique in cellular biology. To capitalize on this knowledge we have designed and built a confocal microscope capable of 30,000 sub-micron multi-color cellular images per day. This throughput permits the application of cellular imaging to high volume imaging needs, including drug screening and data base generation. I will discuss the imaging technology, show example readout biology, and discuss informatics applications.

# **February Monthly Meeting**

Dr. Tom Vasicek Chief Scientific Officer LabSeek, Minnesota, MN

Topic: Alternative Careers in Science: From Tools for Drug Discovery to Advancing Science Worldwide

Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2001

Time & Place: 5:30 p.m. Lecture, Room 124
Frick Chemistry Laboratory
Princeton University
6:45 p.m. Dinner at Prospect House

Abstract:. How do you move from academic studies of mouse genetics and embryology to executive management in an internet startup? For Tom Vasicek it has been a gradual transition driven by his passionate search for better ways to do science. He started in academic molecular biology research, moved to gene discovery in the pharmaceutical industry, then to life science tools development, and now to an internet startup to facilitate scientific outsourcing.

Tom will talk about the technologies, the applications, the career building experiences, and the factors involved in decisions he made at each turn. He will leave ample time for discussion of the audience's questions.

The lecture is free and open to the public. The cost for dinner is \$20.00 per person, including wine (students and retirees, \$10.00). Reservations are necessary to attend dinner, but not necessary for the lecture. For dinner reservations, please contact Denise D'Auria at (609) 258-5202, denised@princeton.edu. Dinner reservations must be made by Wednesday, January 17 for the January meeting, and Tuesday, February 6 for the February meeting. Please call to cancel your reservations if you cannot attend. No-shows will be billed for the cost of their dinner.

#### Chairman's Corner

# William Chiang

As I plan to serve my term as Chairperson of the Princeton Section of the ACS in January. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Professor Warren Warren for a superb job during his tenure in 2000. One of my objectives is to continue the tradition of providing interesting speakers in chemistry. I think I am off to a good start with my first two speakers in 2001. In January, Dr. Tim Harris of Praelux in Lawrenceville, NJ will by speaking on single molecule detection. Praelux started out as Seq. Ltd which used single molecule detection to sequence DNA. Along the way, it developed a new screening technology for drug discovery and was recently bought by Amersham. Dr. Harris, who had a distinguished career in Bell Labs prior to joining Praelux, was instrumental in the development of the technologies and company. In February, Dr. Tom Vasicek of LabSeek Corp. in Minnesota will be speaking on establishing a technical B2B company. Tom started his career as a biologist at Millenium and went on to establish the biotechnology group for Corning. Currently, he is the CSO for an internet company that matches the technical needs of companies with other companies that have the technical expertise. I am confident that both talks will be interesting for not just the technical content but the business side as well. One of my other objectives is to increase the attendance at the seminars. We have scheduled the first two seminars of the year at 5:30 p.m. to see if this helps meet this objective. I look forward to a very interesting 2001.

# **Hubert Alyea Award**

Congratulations to the 2000 Hubert Alyea Award winners:

Julia Hamm (Lawrence High School)
Zoila Elizabeth Hinson (The Lawrenceville School)
Noam Katz (Montgomery High School)
Penelope Lancaster (Princeton High School)
Angie Lin (The Hun School)
Helena Nurnberg (West Windsor-Plainsboro High School)
Steven Saar (Princeton Day School)
Tamitha Joanne Smedley (Stuart School)

The winner is selected by his or her science teacher as the person who shows the most enthusiasm for scientific investigation. The winners each received a plaque and a \$100 check.

# What's Cooking at Princeton? Kathryn Wagner

The Princeton ACS celebrated National Chemistry Week 2000 on November 10 with its first hands-on event open to the general public. A good time was had by all! About 150 people came to Frick Chemical Laboratory at Princeton University to participate in "Chemistry in the Kitchen," a program of food-related activities for children 5 to 12 and their parents, organized by Dr. Kathryn Wagner. After listening to a brief introduction by NCW Chairman Prof. Andrew Bocarsly, and watching an electrifying demonstration of light emission from a pickle by Prof. Warren Warren, children could try eleven different activities supervised by Princeton ACS

volunteers and chemistry students. The most popular activities were blowing up a balloon with vinegar and baking soda, finding the source of the bubbles in pancake batter, and making ice cream with liquid nitrogen. In keeping with NCW 2000's theme of Chemists Reacting to Hunger, an admission fee of one non-perishable food item was charged, and proceeds were donated to the Crisis Ministry of Princeton and Trenton.

To judge from the eagerness of the participants, and the number of calls from people asking when the program would be repeated, the event was a rousing success. It would not have been possible without the patient and able support of the ACS volunteers, some of whom stayed late to give every child a chance at every activity. ACS volunteers included Dr. Thom Caggiano (Wyeth-Ayerst), Dr. Arthur Wagner (retired), Dr. D.K. Weerasinghe (Firmenich), and Dr. Klaus Wagner (retired). Other volunteers included Princeton graduate students Kev Adjemian, Rahul Deshpande, Carolyn Mordas, Christina Spencer, Dave Watson (and wife Erin), Jennifer Willson (and husband Andrew); Princeton undergraduates Nicole Follmer '02 and Eric Olson '01: and LHS student Michael Warren. Thanks again to everyone, and special thanks to Chemistry Department staff Kirsten Erwin and Alice Ann Fankhauser.

See pictures on page 3.

# 2001 OFFICERS / COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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	CALENDAR OF EVENTS	
Jan. 6-7	Super Science Weekend	State Museum Trenton, NJ
Jan. 9	Trenton ACS Dinner Meeting Speaker: Dr. Bruce Burnham Contact: Helen Tai, (609) 771-4149, htai@earthlink.net	Rider University Lawrenceville, NJ
Jan. 10	Chemical Consultants Network Speaker: John A. Alexander philaACS@aol.com or (215) 382-1589	The Cynwyd Club Bala Cynwyd, PA
Jan. 24	ACS Princeton Section Meeting	Princeton Univ.
Feb. 13	ACS Princeton Section Meeting	Princeton Univ.
Feb. 13	ACS Trenton Section Monthly Meeting Speaker: Kenneth T. Micai Contact: Helen Tai, (609) 771-4149, htai@earthlink.net	Rider University Lawrenceville, NJ
Feb. 14	Chemical Consultants Network Retirement and Estate Planning Strategies for the Self-Employed philaACS@aol.com or (215) 382-1589	The Cynwyd Club Bala Cynwyd, PA